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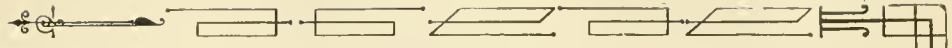




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Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens,  
AND OF THE

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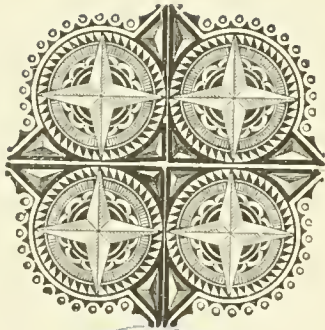
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CHICAGO:

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO.

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# PREFACE.



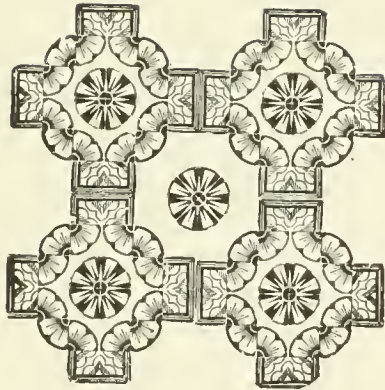
THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD, of this county has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued "the even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"they have done what they could." It tells how that many in the pride and strength of young manhood left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

Coming generations will appreciate this volume and preserve it as a sacred treasure, from the fact that it contains so much that would never find its way into public records, and which would otherwise be inaccessible. Great care has been taken in the compilation of the work and every opportunity possible given to those represented to insure correctness in what has been written, and the publishers flatter themselves that they give to their readers a work with few errors of consequence. In addition to the biographical sketches, portraits of a number of representative citizens are given.

The faces of some, and biographical sketches of many, will be missed in this volume. For this the publishers are not to blame. Not having a proper conception of the work, some refused to give the information necessary to compile a sketch, while others were indifferent. Occasionally some member of the family would oppose the enterprise, and on account of such opposition the support of the interested one would be withheld. In a few instances men could never be found, though repeated calls were made at their residence or place of business.

November, 1893.

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO.



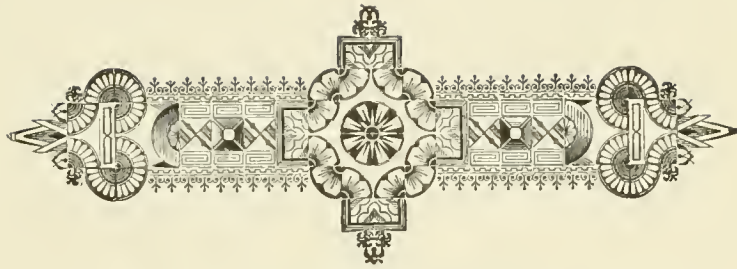
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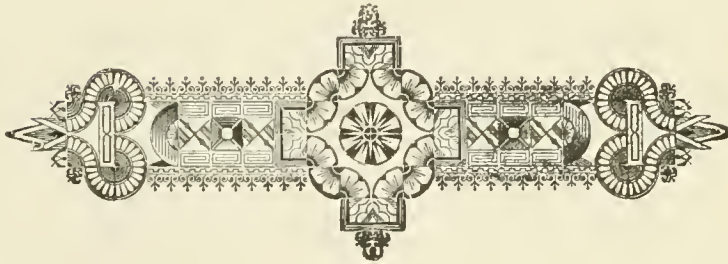
PRESIDENTS

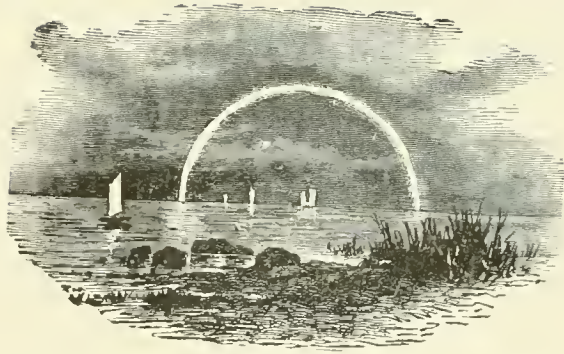
UNITED STATES



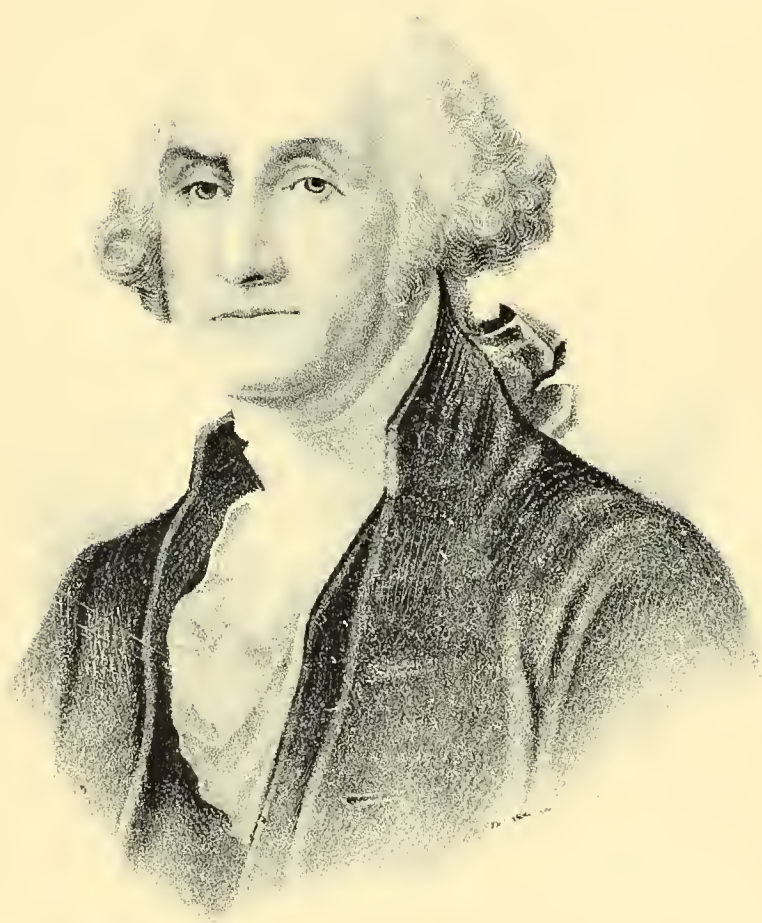


PRESIDENTS.





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# GEORGE WASHINGTON.



HE Father of our Country was born in Westmorland Co., Va., Feb. 22, 1732. His parents were Augustine and Mary (Ball) Washington. The family to which he belonged has not been satisfactorily traced in England. His great-grandfather, John Washington, emigrated to Virginia about 1657, and became a prosperous planter. He had two sons, Lawrence and John. The

former married Mildred Warner and had three children, John, Augustine and Mildred. Augustine, the father of George, first married Jane Butler, who bore him four children, two of whom, Lawrence and Augustine, reached maturity. Of six children by his second marriage, George was the eldest, the others being Betty, Samuel, John Augustine, Charles and Mildred.

Augustine Washington, the father of George, died in 1743, leaving a large landed property. To his eldest son, Lawrence, he bequeathed an estate on the Patomac, afterwards known as Mount Vernon, and to George he left the parental residence. George received only such education as the neighborhood schools afforded, save for a short time after he left school, when he received private instruction in mathematics. His spelling was rather defective.

Remarkable stories are told of his great physical strength and development at an early age. He was an acknowledged leader among his companions, and was early noted for that nobleness of character, fairness and veracity which characterized his whole life.

When George was 14 years old he had a desire to go to sea, and a midshipman's warrant was secured for him, but through the opposition of his mother the idea was abandoned. Two years later he was appointed surveyor to the immense estate of Lord Fairfax. In this business he spent three years in a rough frontier life, gaining experience which afterwards proved very essential to him. In 1751, though only 19 years of age, he was appointed adjutant with the rank of major in the Virginia militia, then being trained for active service against the French and Indians. Soon after this he sailed to the West Indies with his brother Lawrence, who went there to restore his health. They soon returned, and in the summer of 1752 Lawrence died, leaving a large fortune to an infant daughter who did not long survive him. On her demise the estate of Mount Vernon was given to George.

Upon the arrival of Robert Dinwiddie, as Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, in 1752, the militia was reorganized, and the province divided into four military districts, of which the northern was assigned to Washington as adjutant general. Shortly after this a very perilous mission was assigned him and accepted, which others had refused. This was to proceed to the French post near Lake Erie in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The distance to be traversed was between 500 and 600 miles. Winter was at hand, and the journey was to be made without military escort, through a territory occupied by Indians. The

trip was a perilous one, and several times he came near losing his life, yet he returned in safety and furnished a full and useful report of his expedition. A regiment of 300 men was raised in Virginia and put in command of Col. Joshua Fry, and Major Washington was commissioned lieutenant-colonel. Active war was then begun against the French and Indians, in which Washington took a most important part. In the memorable event of July 9, 1755, known as Braddock's defeat, Washington was almost the only officer of distinction who escaped from the calamities of the day with life and honor. The other aids of Braddock were disabled early in the action, and Washington alone was left in that capacity on the field. In a letter to his brother he says: "I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet I escaped unhurt, though death was leveling my companions on every side." An Indian sharpshooter said he was not born to be killed by a bullet, for he had taken direct aim at him seventeen times, and failed to hit him.

After having been five years in the military service, and vainly sought promotion in the royal army, he took advantage of the fall of Fort Duquesne and the expulsion of the French from the valley of the Ohio, to resign his commission. Soon after he entered the Legislature, where, although not a leader, he took an active and important part. January 17, 1759, he married Mrs. Martha (Dandridge) Custis, the wealthy widow of John Parke Custis.

When the British Parliament had closed the port of Boston, the cry went up throughout the provinces that "The cause of Boston is the cause of us all." It was then, at the suggestion of Virginia, that a Congress of all the colonies was called to meet at Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774, to secure their common liberties, peaceably if possible. To this Congress Col. Washington was sent as a delegate. On May 10, 1775, the Congress re-assembled, when the hostile intentions of England were plainly apparent. The battles of Concord and Lexington had been fought. Among the first acts of this Congress was the election of a commander-in-chief of the colonial forces. This high and responsible office was conferred upon Washington, who was still a member of the Congress. He accepted it on June 19, but upon the express condition that he receive no salary. He would keep an exact account of expenses and expect Congress to pay them and nothing more. It is not the object of this sketch to trace the military acts of Washington, to whom the fortunes and liberties of the people of this country were so long confided. The war was conducted by him under every possible disadvantage, and while his forces often met with reverses, yet he overcame every obstacle, and after seven years of heroic devotion and matchless skill he gained liberty for the greatest nation of earth. On Dec. 23, 1783, Washington, in a parting address of surpassing beauty, resigned his

commission as commander-in-chief of the army to to the Continental Congress sitting at Annapolis. He retired immediately to Mount Vernon and resumed his occupation as a farmer and planter, shunning all connection with public life.

In February, 1789, Washington was unanimously elected President. In his presidential career he was subject to the peculiar trials incidental to a new government; trials from lack of confidence on the part of other governments; trials from want of harmony between the different sections of our own country; trials from the impoverished condition of the country, owing to the war and want of credit; trials from the beginnings of party strife. He was no partisan. His clear judgment could discern the golden mean; and while perhaps this alone kept our government from sinking at the very outset, it left him exposed to attacks from both sides, which were often bitter and very annoying.

At the expiration of his first term he was unanimously re-elected. At the end of this term many were anxious that he be re-elected, but he absolutely refused a third nomination. On the fourth of March, 1797, at the expiration of his second term as President, he returned to his home, hoping to pass there his few remaining years free from the annoyances of public life. Later in the year, however, his repose seemed likely to be interrupted by war with France. At the prospect of such a war he was again urged to take command of the armies. He chose his subordinate officers and left to them the charge of matters in the field, which he superintended from his home. In accepting the command he made the reservation that he was not to be in the field until it was necessary. In the midst of these preparations his life was suddenly cut off. December 12, he took a severe cold from a ride in the rain, which, settling in his throat, produced inflammation, and terminated fatally on the night of the fourteenth. On the eighteenth his body was borne with military honors to its final resting place, and interred in the family vault at Mount Vernon.

Of the character of Washington it is impossible to speak but in terms of the highest respect and admiration. The more we see of the operations of our government, and the more deeply we feel the difficulty of uniting all opinions in a common interest, the more highly we must estimate the force of his talent and character, which have been able to challenge the reverence of all parties, and principles, and nations, and to win a fame as extended as the limits of the globe, and which we cannot but believe will be as lasting as the existence of man.

The person of Washington was unusually tall, erect and well proportioned. His muscular strength was great. His features were of a beautiful symmetry. He commanded respect without any appearance of haughtiness, and ever serious without being dull.

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*John Adams*



## JOHN ADAMS.

**J**OHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John

graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a 'school of affliction,' from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of diabolical malice, and Calvinistic good nature," of the operations of which he had been a witness in his native town. He was well fitted for the legal profession, possessing a clear, sonorous voice, being ready and fluent of speech, and having quick perceptive powers. He gradually gained practice, and in 1764 married Abigail Smith, a daughter of a minister, and a lady of superior intelligence. Shortly after his marriage, (1765), the attempt of Parliamentary taxation turned him from law to politics. He took initial steps toward holding a town meeting, and the resolu-

tions he offered on the subject became very popular throughout the Province, and were adopted word for word by over forty different towns. He moved to Boston in 1768, and became one of the most courageous and prominent advocates of the popular cause, and was chosen a member of the General Court (the Legislature) in 1770.

Mr. Adams was chosen one of the first delegates from Massachusetts to the first Continental Congress, which met in 1774. Here he distinguished himself by his capacity for business and for debate, and advocated the movement for independence against the majority of the members. In May, 1776, he moved and carried a resolution in Congress that the Colonies should assume the duties of self-government. He was a prominent member of the committee of five appointed June 11, to prepare a declaration of independence. This article was drawn by Jefferson, but on Adams devolved the task of battling it through Congress in a three days debate.

On the day after the Declaration of Independence was passed, while his soul was yet warm with the glow of excited feeling, he wrote a letter to his wife which, as we read it now, seems to have been dictated by the spirit of prophecy. "Yesterday," he says, "the greatest question was decided that ever was debated in America; and greater, perhaps, never was or will be decided among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, 'that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states.' The day is passed. The fourth of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp, shows

games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward for ever. You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil, and blood and treasure, that it will cost to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these States; yet, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of light and glory. I can see that the end is worth more than all the means; and that posterity will triumph, although you and I may rue, which I hope we shall not."

In November, 1777, Mr. Adams was appointed a delegate to France, and to co-operate with Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, who were then in Paris, in the endeavor to obtain assistance in arms and money from the French Government. This was a severe trial to his patriotism, as it separated him from his home, compelled him to cross the ocean in winter, and exposed him to great peril of capture by the British cruisers, who were seeking him. He left France June 17, 1779. In September of the same year he was again chosen to go to Paris, and there hold himself in readiness to negotiate a treaty of peace and of commerce with Great Britain, as soon as the British Cabinet might be found willing to listen to such proposals. He sailed for France in November, from there he went to Holland, where he negotiated important loans and formed important commercial treaties.

Finally a treaty of peace with England was signed Jan. 21, 1783. The re-action from the excitement, toil and anxiety through which Mr. Adams had passed threw him into a fever. After suffering from a continued fever and becoming feeble and emaciated he was advised to go to England to drink the waters of Bath. While in England, still drooping and desponding, he received dispatches from his own government urging the necessity of his going to Amsterdam to negotiate another loan. It was winter, his health was delicate, yet he immediately set out, and through storm, on sea, on horseback and foot, he made the trip.

February 24, 1785, Congress appointed Mr. Adams envoy to the Court of St. James. Here he met face to face the King of England, who had so long regarded him as a traitor. As England did not condescend to appoint a minister to the United States, and as Mr. Adams felt that he was accomplishing but little, he sought permission to return to his own country, where he arrived in June, 1788.

When Washington was first chosen President, John Adams, rendered illustrious by his signal services at home and abroad, was chosen Vice President. Again at the second election of Washington as President, Adams was chosen Vice President. In 1796, Washington retired from public life, and Mr. Adams was elected President, though not without much opposition. Serving in this office four years, he was succeeded by Mr. Jefferson, his opponent in politics.

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

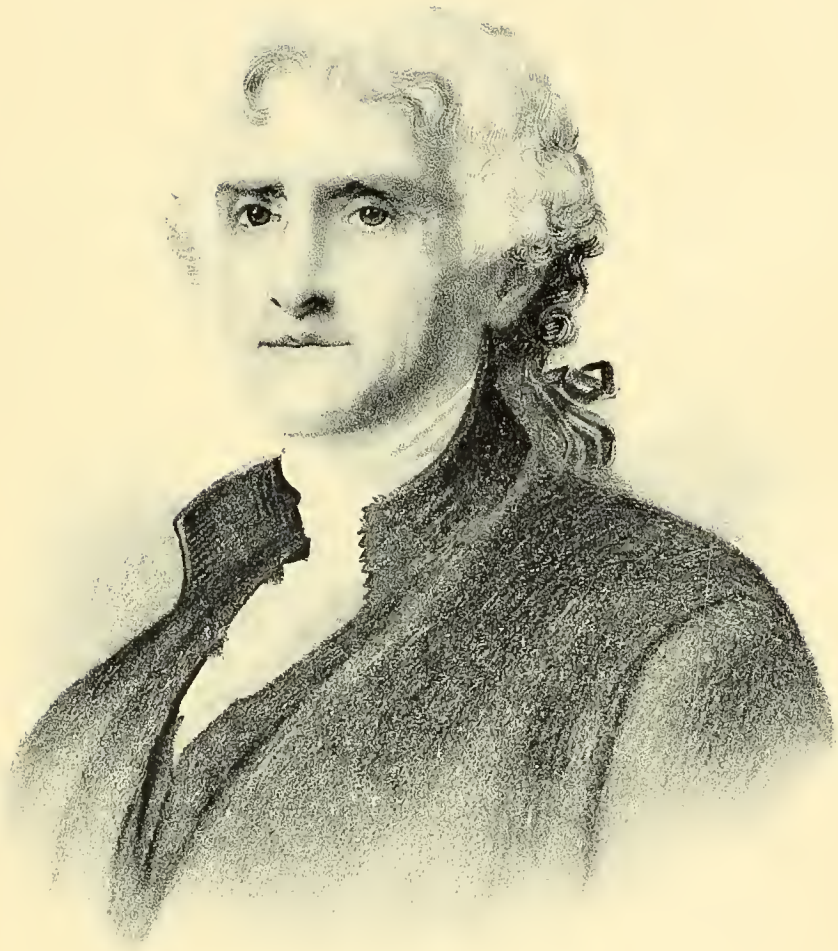
French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred the class of atheist philosophers who he claimed caused it. On the other hand Jefferson's sympathies were strongly enlisted in behalf of the French people. Hence originated the alienation between these distinguished men, and two powerful parties were thus soon organized, Adams at the head of the one whose sympathies were with England and Jefferson led the other in sympathy with France.

The world has seldom seen a spectacle of more moral beauty and grandeur, than was presented by the old age of Mr. Adams. The violence of party feeling had died away, and he had begun to receive that just appreciation which, to most men, is not accorded till after death. No one could look upon his venerable form, and think of what he had done and suffered, and how he had given up all the prime and strength of his life to the public good, without the deepest emotion of gratitude and respect. It was his peculiar good fortune to witness the complete success of the institution which he had been so active in creating and supporting. In 1824, his cup of happiness was filled to the brim, by seeing his son elevated to the highest station in the gift of the people.

The fourth of July, 1826, which completed the half century since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, arrived, and there were but three of the signers of that immortal instrument left upon the earth to hail its morning light. And, as it is well known, on that day two of these finished their earthly pilgrimage, a coincidence so remarkable as to seem miraculous. For a few days before Mr. Adams had been rapidly failing, and on the morning of the fourth he found himself too weak to rise from his bed. On being requested to name a toast for the customary celebration of the day, he exclaimed "INDEPENDENCE FOREVER." When the day was ushered in, by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannons, he was asked by one of his attendants if he knew what day it was? He replied, "O yes; it is the glorious fourth of July—God bless it—God bless you all." In the course of the day he said, "It is a great and glorious day." The last words he uttered were, "Jefferson survives." But he had, at one o'clock, resigned his spirit into the hands of his God.

The personal appearance and manners of Mr. Adams were not particularly prepossessing. His face, as his portrait manifests, was intellectual and expressive, but his figure was low and ungraceful, and his manners were frequently abrupt and uncourteous. He had neither the lofty dignity of Washington, nor the engaging elegance and gracefulness which marked the manners and address of Jefferson.





*Th. Jefferson*





# THOMAS JEFFERSON.



THOMAS JEFFERSON was born April 2, 1743, at Shadwell, Albermarle county, Va. His parents were Peter and Jane (Randolph) Jefferson, the former a native of Wales, and the latter born in London. To them were born six daughters and two sons, of whom Thomas was the elder. When 14 years of age his father died. He received a most liberal education, having been kept diligently at school from the time he was five years of age. In 1760 he entered William

and Mary College. Williamsburg was then the seat of the Colonial Court, and it was the obode of fashion and splendor. Young Jefferson, who was then 17 years old, lived somewhat expensively, keeping fine horses, and much caressed by gay society, yet he was earnestly devoted to his studies, and irreproachable in his morals. It is strange, however, under such influences, that he was not ruined. In the second year of his college course, moved by some unexplained inward impulse, he discarded his horses, society, and even his favorite violin, to which he had previously given much time. He often devoted fifteen hours a day to hard study, allowing himself for exercise only a run in the evening twilight of a mile out of the city and back again. He thus attained very high intellectual culture, alike excellence in philosophy and the languages. The most difficult Latin and Greek authors he read with facility. A more finished scholar has seldom gone forth from college halls; and

there was not to be found, perhaps, in all Virginia, a more pureminded, upright, gentlemanly young man.

Immediately upon leaving college he began the study of law. For the short time he continued in the practice of his profession he rose rapidly and distinguished himself by his energy and acuteness as a lawyer. But the times called for greater action. The policy of England had awakened the spirit of resistance of the American Colonies, and the enlarged views which Jefferson had ever entertained, soon led him into active political life. In 1769 he was chosen a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. In 1772 he married Mrs. Martha Skelton, a very beautiful, wealthy and highly accomplished young widow.

Upon Mr. Jefferson's large estate at Shadwell, there was a majestic swell of land, called Monticello, which commanded a prospect of wonderful extent and beauty. This spot Mr. Jefferson selected for his new home; and here he reared a mansion of modest yet elegant architecture, which, next to Mount Vernon became the most distinguished resort in our land.

In 1775 he was sent to the Colonial Congress, where, though a silent member, his abilities as a writer and a reasoner soon become known, and he was placed upon a number of important committees, and was chairman of the one appointed for the drawing up of a declaration of independence. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, as chairman, was appointed to draw up the paper. Franklin and Adams suggested a few verbal changes before it was submitted to Congress. On June 28, a few slight changes were made in it by Congress, and it was passed and signed July 4, 1776. What must have been the feelings of that

man—what the emotions that swelled his breast—who was charged with the preparation of that Declaration, which, while it made known the wrongs of America, was also to publish her to the world, free, sovereign and independent. It is one of the most remarkable papers ever written; and did no other effort of the mind of its author exist, that alone would be sufficient to stamp his name with immortality.

In 1779 Mr. Jefferson was elected successor to Patrick Henry, as Governor of Virginia. At one time the British officer, Tarleton, sent a secret expedition to Monticello, to capture the Governor. Scarcely five minutes elapsed after the hurried escape of Mr. Jefferson and his family, ere his mansion was in possession of the British troops. His wife's health, never very good, was much injured by this excitement, and in the summer of 1782 she died.

Mr. Jefferson was elected to Congress in 1783. Two years later he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to France. Returning to the United States in September, 1789, he became Secretary of State in Washington's cabinet. This position he resigned Jan. 1, 1794. In 1797, he was chosen Vice President, and four years later was elected President over Mr. Adams, with Aaron Burr as Vice President. In 1804 he was re-elected with wonderful unanimity, and George Clinton, Vice President.

The early part of Mr. Jefferson's second administration was disturbed by an event which threatened the tranquility and peace of the Union; this was the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. Defeated in the late election to the Vice Presidency, and led on by an unprincipled ambition, this extraordinary man formed the plan of a military expedition into the Spanish territories on our southwestern frontier, for the purpose of forming there a new republic. This has been generally supposed was a mere pretext; and although it has not been generally known what his real plans were, there is no doubt that they were of a far more dangerous character.

In 1809, at the expiration of the second term for which Mr. Jefferson had been elected, he determined to retire from political life. For a period of nearly forty years, he had been continually before the public, and all that time had been employed in offices of the greatest trust and responsibility. Having thus devoted the best part of his life to the service of his country, he now felt desirous of that rest which his declining years required, and upon the organization of the new administration, in March, 1809, he bid farewell forever to public life, and retired to Monticello.

Mr. Jefferson was profuse in his hospitality. Whole families came in their coaches with their horses,—fathers and mothers, boys and girls, babies and nurses,—and remained three and even six months. Life at Monticello, for years, resembled that at a fashionable watering-place.

The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniver-

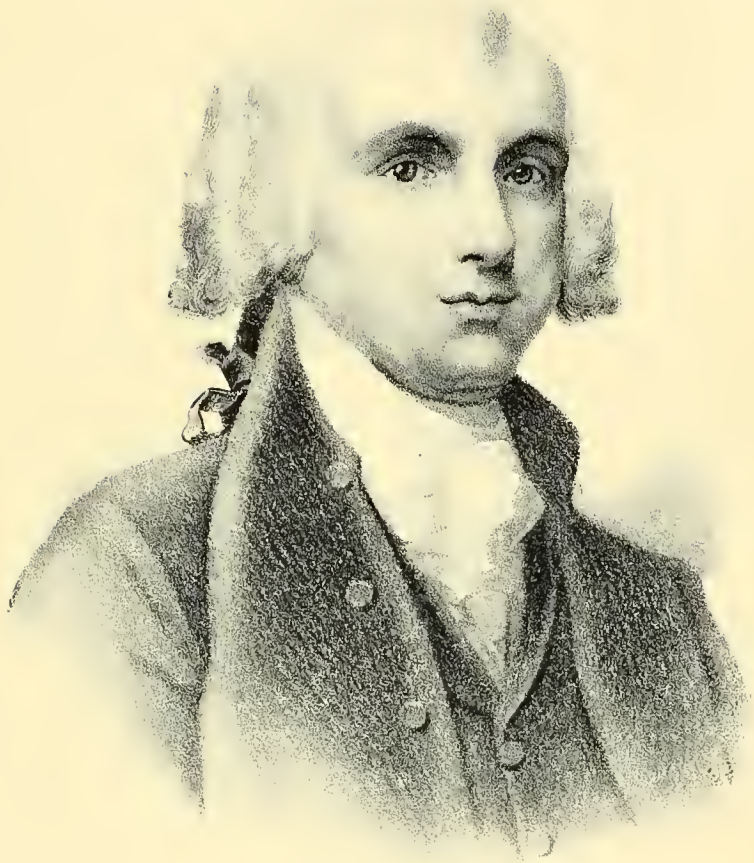
sary of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framer, and one of the few surviving signers of the Declaration, to participate in their festivities. But an illness, which had been of several weeks duration, and had been continually increasing, compelled him to decline the invitation.

On the second of July, the disease under which he was laboring left him, but in such a reduced state that his medical attendants, entertained no hope of his recovery. From this time he was perfectly sensible that his last hour was at hand. On the next day, which was Monday, he asked of those around him, the day of the month, and on being told it was the third of July, he expressed the earnest wish that he might be permitted to breathe the air of the fiftieth anniversary. His prayer was heard—that day, whose dawn was hailed with such rapture through our land, burst upon his eyes, and then they were closed forever. And what a noble consummation of a noble life! To die on that day,—the birthday of a nation,—the day which his own name and his own act had rendered glorious; to die amidst the rejoicings and festivities of a whole nation, who looked up to him, as the author, under God, of their greatest blessings, was all that was wanting to fill up the record his life.

Almost at the same hour of his death, the kindred spirit of the venerable Adams, as if to bear him company, left the scene of his earthly honors. Hand in hand they had stood forth, the champions of freedom; hand in hand, during the dark and desperate struggle of the Revolution, they had cheered and animated their desponding countrymen; for half a century they had labored together for the good of the country; and now hand in hand they depart. In their lives they had been united in the same great cause of liberty, and in their deaths they were not divided.

In person Mr. Jefferson was tall and thin, rather above six feet in height, but well formed; his eyes were light, his hair originally red, in after life became white and silvery; his complexion was fair, his forehead broad, and his whole countenance intelligent and thoughtful. He possessed great fortitude of mind as well as personal courage; and his command of temper was such that his oldest and most intimate friends never recollected to have seen him in a passion. His manners, though dignified, were simple and unaffected, and his hospitality was so unbounded that all found at his house a ready welcome. In conversation he was fluent, eloquent and enthusiastic; and his language was remarkably pure and correct. He was a finished classical scholar, and in his writings is discernable the care with which he formed his style upon the best models of antiquity.

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*James Madison*



## JAMES MADISON.

**J**AMES MADISON, "Father of the Constitution," and fourth President of the United States, was born March 16, 1757, and died at his home in Virginia, June 28, 1836. The name of

James Madison is inseparably connected with most of the important events in that heroic period of our country during which the foundations of this great republic were laid. He was the last of the founders of the Constitution of the United States to be called to his eternal reward.

The Madison family were among the early emigrants to the New World, landing upon the shores of the Chesapeake but 15 years after the settlement of Jamestown. The father of James Madison was an opulent planter, residing upon a very fine estate called "Montpelier," Orange Co., Va. The mansion was situated in the midst of scenery highly picturesque and romantic, on the west side of South-west Mountain, at the foot of Blue Ridge. It was but 25 miles from the home of Jefferson at Monticello. The closest personal and political attachment existed between these illustrious men, from their early youth until death.

The early education of Mr. Madison was conducted mostly at home under a private tutor. At the age of 18 he was sent to Princeton College, in New Jersey. Here he applied himself to study with the most im-

prudent zeal; allowing himself, for months, but three hours' sleep out of the 24. His health thus became so seriously impaired that he never recovered any vigor of constitution. He graduated in 1771, with a feeble body, with a character of utmost purity, and with a mind highly disciplined and richly stored with learning which embellished and gave proficiency to his subsequent career.

Returning to Virginia, he commenced the study of law and a course of extensive and systematic reading. This educational course, the spirit of the times in which he lived, and the society with which he associated, all combined to inspire him with a strong love of liberty, and to train him for his life-work of a statesman. Being naturally of a religious turn of mind, and his frail health leading him to think that his life was not to be long, he directed especial attention to theological studies. Endowed with a mind singularly free from passion and prejudice, and with almost unequalled powers of reasoning, he weighed all the arguments for and against revealed religion, until his faith became so established as never to be shaken.

In the spring of 1776, when 26 years of age, he was elected a member of the Virginia Convention, to frame the constitution of the State. The next year (1777), he was a candidate for the General Assembly. He refused to treat the whisky-loving voters, and consequently lost his election; but those who had witnessed the talent, energy and public spirit of the modest young man, enlisted themselves in his behalf, and he was appointed to the Executive Council.

Both Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson were Governors of Virginia while Mr. Madison remained member of the Council; and their appreciation of his

intellectual, social and moral worth, contributed not a little to his subsequent eminence. In the year 1780, he was elected a member of the Continental Congress. Here he met the most illustrious men in our land, and he was immediately assigned to one of the most conspicuous positions among them.

For three years Mr. Madison continued in Congress, one of its most active and influential members. In the year 1784, his term having expired, he was elected a member of the Virginia Legislature.

No man felt more deeply than Mr. Madison the utter inefficiency of the old confederacy, with no national government, with no power to form treaties which would be binding, or to enforce law. There was not any State more prominent than Virginia in the declaration, that an efficient national government must be formed. In January, 1786, Mr. Madison carried a resolution through the General Assembly of Virginia, inviting the other States to appoint commissioners to meet in convention at Annapolis to discuss this subject. Five States only were represented. The convention, however, issued another call, drawn up by Mr. Madison, urging all the States to send their delegates to Philadelphia, in May, 1787, to draft a Constitution for the United States, to take the place of that Confederate League. The delegates met at the time appointed. Every State but Rhode Island was represented. George Washington was chosen president of the convention; and the present Constitution of the United States was then and there formed. There was, perhaps, no mind and no pen more active in framing this immortal document than the mind and the pen of James Madison.

The Constitution, adopted by a vote 81 to 79, was to be presented to the several States for acceptance. But grave solicitude was felt. Should it be rejected we should be left but a conglomeration of independent States, with but little power at home and little respect abroad. Mr. Madison was selected by the convention to draw up an address to the people of the United States, expounding the principles of the Constitution, and urging its adoption. There was great opposition to it at first, but it at length triumphed over all, and went into effect in 1789.

Mr. Madison was elected to the House of Representatives in the first Congress, and soon became the avowed leader of the Republican party. While in New York attending Congress, he met Mrs. Todd, a young widow of remarkable power of fascination, whom he married. She was in person and character queenly, and probably no lady has thus far occupied so prominent a position in the very peculiar society which has constituted our republican court as Mrs. Madison.

Mr. Madison served as Secretary of State under Jefferson, and at the close of his administration was chosen President. At this time the encroachments of England had brought us to the verge of war.

British orders in council destroyed our commerce, and our flag was exposed to constant insult. Mr. Madison was a man of peace. Scholarly in his taste, retiring in his disposition, war had no charms for him. But the meekest spirit can be roused. It makes one's blood boil, even now, to think of an American ship brought to, upon the ocean, by the guns of an English cruiser. A young lieutenant steps on board and orders the crew to be paraded before him. With great nonchalance he selects any number whom he may please to designate as British subjects; orders them down the ship's side into his boat; and places them on the gun-deck of his man-of-war, to fight, by compulsion, the battles of England. This right of search and impressment, no efforts of our Government could induce the British cabinet to relinquish.

On the 18th of June, 1812, President Madison gave his approval to an act of Congress declaring war against Great Britain. Notwithstanding the bitter hostility of the Federal party to the war, the country in general approved; and Mr. Madison, on the 4th of March, 1813, was re-elected by a large majority, and entered upon his second term of office. This is not the place to describe the various adventures of this war on the land and on the water. Our infant navy then laid the foundations of its renown in grappling with the most formidable power which ever swept the seas. The contest commenced in earnest by the appearance of a British fleet, early in February, 1813, in Chesapeake Bay, declaring nearly the whole coast of the United States under blockade.

The Emperor of Russia offered his services as mediator. America accepted; England refused. A British force of five thousand men landed on the banks of the Patuxet River, near its entrance into Chesapeake Bay, and marched rapidly, by way of Bladensburg, upon Washington.

The straggling little city of Washington was thrown into consternation. The cannon of the brief conflict at Bladensburg echoed through the streets of the metropolis. The whole population fled from the city. The President, leaving Mrs. Madison in the White House, with her carriage drawn up at the door to await his speedy return, hurried to meet the officers in a council of war. He met our troops utterly routed, and he could not go back without danger of being captured. But few hours elapsed ere the Presidential Mansion, the Capitol, and all the public buildings in Washington were in flames.

The war closed after two years of fighting, and on Feb. 13, 1815, the treaty of peace was signed at Ghent.

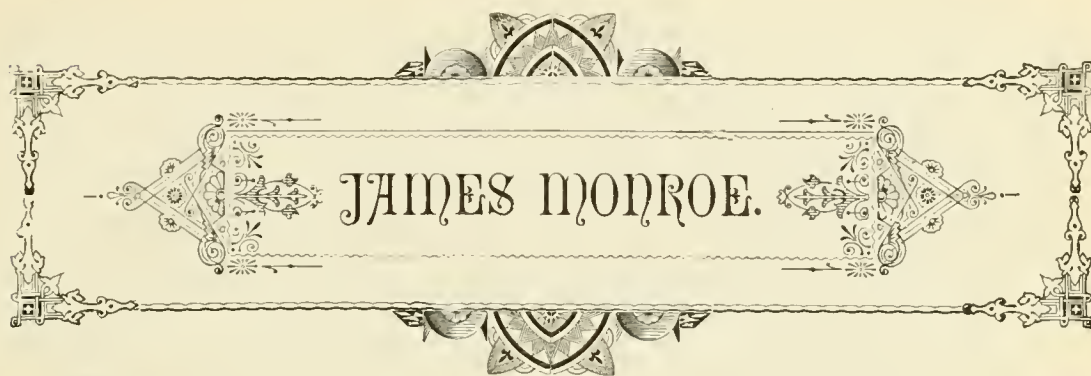
On the 4th of March, 1817, his second term of office expired, and he resigned the Presidential chair to his friend, James Monroe. He retired to his beautiful home at Montpelier, and there passed the remainder of his days. On June 28, 1836, then at the age of 85 years, he fell asleep in death. Mrs. Madison died July 12, 1849.

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*Samuel W. Brown*





## JAMES MONROE.

**J**AMES MONROE, the fifth President of The United States, was born in Westmoreland Co., Va., April 28, 1758. His early life was passed at the place of nativity. His ancestors had for many years resided in the province in which he was born. When, at 17 years of age, in the process of completing his education at William and Mary College, the Colonial Congress assembled at Philadelphia to deliberate upon the unjust and manifold oppressions of Great Britain, declared the separation of the Colonies, and promulgated the Declaration of Independence. Had he been born ten years before it is highly probable that he would have been one of the signers of that celebrated instrument. At this time he left school and enlisted among the patriots.

He joined the army when everything looked hopeless and gloomy. The number of deserters increased from day to day. The invading armies came pouring in; and the tories not only favored the cause of the mother country, but disheartened the new recruits, who were sufficiently terrified at the prospect of contending with an enemy whom they had been taught to deem invincible. To such brave spirits as James Monroe, who went right onward, undismayed through difficulty and danger, the United States owe their political emancipation. The young cadet joined the ranks, and espoused the cause of his injured country, with a firm determination to live or die with her strife

for liberty. Firmly yet sadly he shared in the melancholy retreat from Harleam Heights and White Plains, and accompanied the dispirited army as it fled before its foes through New Jersey. In four months after the Declaration of Independence, the patriots had been beaten in seven battles. At the battle of Trenton he led the vanguard, and, in the act of charging upon the enemy he received a wound in the left shoulder.

As a reward for his bravery, Mr. Monroe was promoted a captain of infantry; and, having recovered from his wound, he rejoined the army. He, however, receded from the line of promotion, by becoming an officer in the staff of Lord Sterling. During the campaigns of 1777 and 1778, in the actions of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, he continued aid-de-camp; but becoming desirous to regain his position in the army, he exerted himself to collect a regiment for the Virginia line. This scheme failed owing to the exhausted condition of the State. Upon this failure he entered the office of Mr. Jefferson, at that period Governor, and pursued, with considerable ardor, the study of common law. He did not, however, entirely lay aside the knapsack for the green bag; but on the invasions of the enemy, served as a volunteer, during the two years of his legal pursuits.

In 1782, he was elected from King George county, a member of the Legislature of Virginia, and by that body he was elevated to a seat in the Executive Council. He was thus honored with the confidence of his fellow citizens at 23 years of age; and having at this early period displayed some of that ability and aptitude for legislation, which were afterwards employed with unremitting energy for the public good,

he was in the succeeding year chosen a member of the Congress of the United States.

Deeply as Mr. Monroe felt the imperfections of the old Confederacy, he was opposed to the new Constitution, thinking, with many others of the Republican party, that it gave too much power to the Central Government, and not enough to the individual States. Still he retained the esteem of his friends who were its warm supporters, and who, notwithstanding his opposition secured its adoption. In 1789, he became a member of the United States Senate; which office he held for four years. Every month the line of distinction between the two great parties which divided the nation, the Federal and the Republican, was growing more distinct. The two prominent ideas which now separated them were, that the Republican party was in sympathy with France, and also in favor of such a strict construction of the Constitution as to give the Central Government as little power, and the State Governments as much power, as the Constitution would warrant. The Federalists sympathized with England, and were in favor of a liberal construction of the Constitution, which would give as much power to the Central Government as that document could possibly authorize.

The leading Federalists and Republicans were alike noble men, consecrating all their energies to the good of the nation. Two more honest men or more pure patriots than John Adams the Federalist, and James Monroe the Republican, never breathed. In building up this majestic nation, which is destined to eclipse all Grecian and Assyrian greatness, the combination of their antagonism was needed to create the right equilibrium. And yet each in his day was denounced as almost a demon.

Washington was then President. England had espoused the cause of the Bourbons against the principles of the French Revolution. All Europe was drawn into the conflict. We were feeble and far away. Washington issued a proclamation of neutrality between these contending powers. France had helped us in the struggle for our liberties. All the despotisms of Europe were now combined to prevent the French from escaping from a tyranny a thousand-fold worse than that which we had endured. Col. Monroe, more magnanimous than prudent, was anxious that, at whatever hazard, we should help our old allies in their extremity. It was the impulse of a generous and noble nature. He violently opposed the President's proclamation as ungrateful and wanting in magnanimity.

Washington, who could appreciate such a character, developed his calm, serene, almost divine greatness, by appointing that very James Monroe, who was denouncing the policy of the Government, as the minister of that Government to the Republic of France. Mr. Monroe was welcomed by the National Convention in France with the most enthusiastic demonstrations.

Shortly after his return to this country, Mr. Monroe was elected Governor of Virginia, and held the office for three years. He was again sent to France to co-operate with Chancellor Livingston in obtaining the vast territory then known as the Province of Louisiana, which France had but shortly before obtained from Spain. Their united efforts were successful. For the comparatively small sum of fifteen millions of dollars, the entire territory of Orleans and district of Louisiana were added to the United States. This was probably the largest transfer of real estate which was ever made in all the history of the world.

From France Mr. Monroe went to England to obtain from that country some recognition of our rights as neutrals, and to remonstrate against those odious impressments of our seamen. But England was unrelenting. He again returned to England on the same mission, but could receive no redress. He returned to his home and was again chosen Governor of Virginia. This he soon resigned to accept the position of Secretary of State under Madison. While in this office war with England was declared, the Secretary of War resigned, and during these trying times, the duties of the War Department were also put upon him. He was truly the armor-bearer of President Madison, and the most efficient business man in his cabinet. Upon the return of peace he resigned the Department of War, but continued in the office of Secretary of State until the expiration of Mr. Madison's administration. At the election held the previous autumn Mr. Monroe himself had been chosen President with but little opposition, and upon March 4, 1817, was inaugurated. Four years later he was elected for a second term.

Among the important measures of his Presidency were the cession of Florida to the United States; the Missouri Compromise, and the "Monroe doctrine."

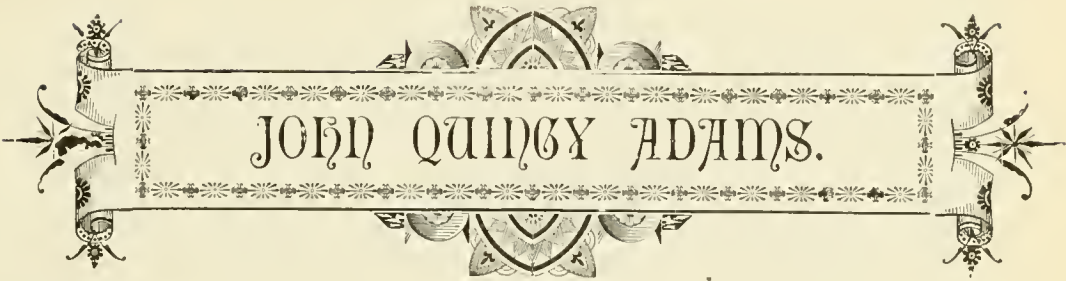
This famous doctrine, since known as the "Monroe doctrine," was enunciated by him in 1823. At that time the United States had recognized the independence of the South American states, and did not wish to have European powers longer attempting to subdue portions of the American Continent. The doctrine is as follows: "That we should consider any attempt on the part of European powers to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety," and "that we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing or controlling American governments or provinces in any other light than as a manifestation by European powers of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States." This doctrine immediately affected the course of foreign governments, and has become the approved sentiment of the United States.

At the end of his second term Mr. Monroe retired to his home in Virginia, where he lived until 1830 when he went to New York to live with his son-in-law. In that city he died, on the 4th of July 1831.

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*J. Q. Adams*



## JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, the sixth President of the United States, was born in the rural home of his honored father, John Adams, in Quincy, Mass., on the 11th of July, 1767. His mother, a woman of exalted worth, watched over his childhood during the almost constant absence of his father. When but eight years of age, he stood with his mother on an eminence, listening to the booming of the great battle on Bunker's Hill, and gazing on upon the smoke and flames billowing up from the conflagration of Charlestown.

When but eleven years old he took a tearful adieu of his mother, to sail with his father for Europe,

through a fleet of hostile British cruisers. The bright, animated boy spent a year and a half in Paris, where his father was associated with Franklin and Lee as minister plenipotentiary. His intelligence attracted the notice of these distinguished men, and he received from them flattering marks of attention.

Mr. John Adams had scarcely returned to this country, in 1779, ere he was again sent abroad. Again John Quincy accompanied his father. At Paris he applied himself with great diligence, for six months, to study; then accompanied his father to Holland, where he entered, first a school in Amsterdam, then the University at Leyden. About a year from this time, in 1781, when the manly boy was but fourteen years of age, he was selected by Mr. Dana, our minister to the Russian court, as his private secretary.

In this school of incessant labor and of ennobling culture he spent fourteen months, and then returned to Holland through Sweden, Denmark, Hamburg and Bremen. This long journey he took alone, in the winter, when in his sixteenth year. Again he resumed his studies, under a private tutor, at Hague. Thence,

in the spring of 1782, he accompanied his father to Paris, traveling leisurely, and forming acquaintance with the most distinguished men on the Continent examining architectural remains, galleries of paintings and all renowned works of art. At Paris he again became associated with the most illustrious men of all lands in the contemplations of the loftiest temporal themes which can engross the human mind. After a short visit to England he returned to Paris, and consecrated all his energies to study until May, 1785, when he returned to America. To a brilliant young man of eighteen, who had seen much of the world, and who was familiar with the etiquette of courts, a residence with his father in London, under such circumstances, must have been extremely attractive; but with judgment very rare in one of his age, he preferred to return to America to complete his education in an American college. He wished then to study law, that with an honorable profession, he might be able to obtain an independent support.

Upon leaving Harvard College, at the age of twenty he studied law for three years. In June, 1794, being then but twenty-seven years of age, he was appointed by Washington, resident minister at the Netherlands. Sailing from Boston in July, he reached London in October, where he was immediately admitted to the deliberations of Messrs. Jay and Pinckney, assisting them in negotiating a commercial treaty with Great Britain. After thus spending a fortnight in London, he proceeded to the Hague.

In July, 1797, he left the Hague to go to Portugal as minister plenipotentiary. On his way to Portugal upon arriving in London, he met with despatches directing him to the court of Berlin, but requesting him to remain in London until he should receive his instructions. While waiting he was married to an American lady to whom he had been previously engaged,—Miss Louisa Catherine Johnson, daughter of Mr. Joshua Johnson, American consul in London, a lady endowed with that beauty and those accomplishments which eminently fitted her to move in the elevated sphere for which she was destined.

He reached Berlin with his wife in November, 1797; where he remained until July, 1799, when, having fulfilled all the purposes of his mission, he solicited his recall.

Soon after his return, in 1802, he was chosen to the Senate of Massachusetts, from Boston, and then was elected Senator of the United States for six years, from the 4th of March, 1804. His reputation, his ability and his experience, placed him immediately among the most prominent and influential members of that body. Especially did he sustain the Government in its measures of resistance to the encroachments of England, destroying our commerce and insulting our flag. There was no man in America more familiar with the arrogance of the British court upon these points, and no one more resolved to present a firm resistance.

In 1809, Madison succeeded Jefferson in the Presidential chair, and he immediately nominated John Quincy Adams minister to St. Petersburg. Resigning his professorship in Harvard College, he embarked at Boston, in August, 1809.

While in Russia, Mr. Adams was an intense student. He devoted his attention to the language and history of Russia; to the Chinese trade; to the European system of weights, measures, and coins; to the climate and astronomical observations; while he kept up a familiar acquaintance with the Greek and Latin classics. In all the universities of Europe, a more accomplished scholar could scarcely be found. All through life the Bible constituted an important part of his studies. It was his rule to read five chapters every day.

On the 4th of March, 1817, Mr. Monroe took the Presidential chair, and immediately appointed Mr. Adams Secretary of State. Taking leave of his numerous friends in public and private life in Europe, he sailed in June, 1819, for the United States. On the 18th of August, he again crossed the threshold of his home in Quincy. During the eight years of Mr. Monroe's administration, Mr. Adams continued Secretary of State.

Some time before the close of Mr. Monroe's second term of office, new candidates began to be presented for the Presidency. The friends of Mr. Adams brought forward his name. It was an exciting campaign. Party spirit was never more bitter. Two hundred and sixty electoral votes were cast. Andrew Jackson received ninety-nine; John Quincy Adams, eighty-four; William H. Crawford, forty-one; Henry Clay, thirty-seven. As there was no choice by the people, the question went to the House of Representatives. Mr. Clay gave the vote of Kentucky to Mr. Adams, and he was elected.

The friends of all the disappointed candidates now combined in a venomous and persistent assault upon Mr. Adams. There is nothing more disgraceful in the past history of our country than the abuse which

was poured in one uninterrupted stream, upon this high-minded, upright, patriotic man. There never was an administration more pure in principles, more conscientiously devoted to the best interests of the country, than that of John Quincy Adams; and never, perhaps, was there an administration more unscrupulously and outrageously assailed.

Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting his own fire and applying himself to work in his library often long before dawn.

On the 4th of March, 1829, Mr. Adams retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by Andrew Jackson. John C. Calhoun was elected Vice President. The slavery question now began to assume portentous magnitude. Mr. Adams returned to Quincy and to his studies, which he pursued with unabated zeal. But he was not long permitted to remain in retirement. In November, 1830, he was elected representative to Congress. For seventeen years, until his death, he occupied the post as representative, towering above all his peers, ever ready to do brave battle for freedom, and winning the title of "the old man eloquent." Upon taking his seat in the House, he announced that he should hold himself bound to no party. Probably there never was a member more devoted to his duties. He was usually the first in his place in the morning, and the last to leave his seat in the evening. Not a measure could be brought forward and escape his scrutiny. The battle which Mr. Adams fought, almost singly, against the proslavery party in the Government, was sublime in its moral daring and heroism. For persisting in presenting petitions for the abolition of slavery, he was threatened with indictment by the grand jury with expulsion from the House, with assassination but no threats could intimidate him, and his final triumph was complete.

It has been said of President Adams, that when his body was bent and his hair silvered by the lapse of fourscore years, yielding to the simple faith of a little child, he was accustomed to repeat every night, before he slept, the prayer which his mother taught him in his infant years.

On the 21st of February, 1848, he rose on the floor of Congress, with a paper in his hand, to address the speaker. Suddenly he fell, again stricken by paralysis, and was caught in the arms of those around him. For a time he was senseless, as he was conveyed to the sofa in the rotunda. With reviving consciousness, he opened his eyes, looked calmly around and said "*This is the end of earth;*" then after a moment's pause he added, "*I am content.*" These were the last words of the grand "Old Man Eloquent."





*Andrew Jackson*





## ANDREW JACKSON.



ANDREW JACKSON, the seventh President of the United States, was born in Waxhaw settlement, N. C., March 15, 1767, a few days after his father's death. His parents were poor emigrants from Ireland, and took up their abode in Waxhaw settlement, where they lived in deepest poverty.

Andrew, or Andy, as he was universally called, grew up a very rough, rude, turbulent boy. His features were coarse, his form ungainly; and there was but very

little in his character, made visible, which was attractive.

When only thirteen years old he joined the volunteers of Carolina against the British invasion. In 1781, he and his brother Robert were captured and imprisoned for a time at Camden. A British officer ordered him to brush his mud-spattered boots. "I am a prisoner of war, not your servant," was the reply of the dauntless boy.

The brute drew his sword, and aimed a desperate blow at the head of the helpless young prisoner. Andrew raised his hand, and thus received two fearful gashes,—one on the hand and the other upon the head. The officer then turned to his brother Robert with the same demand. He also refused, and received a blow from the keen-edged sabre, which quite disabled him, and which probably soon after caused his death. They suffered much other ill-treatment, and were finally stricken with the small-pox. Their mother was successful in obtaining their exchange,

and took her sick boys home. After a long illness Andrew recovered, and the death of his mother soon left him entirely friendless.

Andrew supported himself in various ways, such as working at the saddler's trade, teaching school and clerking in a general store, until 1784, when he entered a law office at Salisbury, N. C. He, however, gave more attention to the wild amusements of the times than to his studies. In 1788, he was appointed solicitor for the western district of North Carolina, of which Tennessee was then a part. This involved many long and tedious journeys amid dangers of every kind, but Andrew Jackson never knew fear and the Indians had no desire to repeat a skirmish with the Sharp Knife.

In 1791, Mr. Jackson was married to a woman who supposed herself divorced from her former husband. Great was the surprise of both parties, two years later, to find that the conditions of the divorce had just been definitely settled by the first husband. The marriage ceremony was performed a second time, but the occurrence was often used by his enemies to bring Mr. Jackson into disfavor.

During these years he worked hard at his profession, and frequently had one or more duels on hand, one of which, when he killed Dickenson, was especially disgraceful.

In January, 1796, the Territory of Tennessee then containing nearly eighty thousand inhabitants, the people met in convention at Knoxville to frame a constitution. Five were sent from each of the eleven counties. Andrew Jackson was one of the delegates. The new State was entitled to but one member in the National House of Representatives. Andrew Jackson was chosen that member. Mounting his horse he rode to Philadelphia, where Congress then held its

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

Jackson was an earnest advocate of the Democratic party. Jefferson was his idol. He admired Bonaparte, loved France and hated England. As Mr. Jackson took his seat, Gen. Washington, whose second term of office was then expiring, delivered his last speech to Congress. A committee drew up a complimentary address in reply. Andrew Jackson did not approve of the address, and was one of the twelve who voted against it. He was not willing to say that Gen. Washington's administration had been "wise, firm and patriotic."

Mr. Jackson was elected to the United States Senate in 1797, but soon resigned and returned home. Soon after he was chosen Judge of the Supreme Court of his State, which position he held for six years.

When the war of 1812 with Great Britain commenced, Madison occupied the Presidential chair. Aaron Burr sent word to the President that there was an unknown man in the West, Andrew Jackson, who would do credit to a commission if one were conferred upon him. Just at that time Gen. Jackson offered his services and those of twenty-five hundred volunteers. His offer was accepted, and the troops were assembled at Nashville.

As the British were hourly expected to make an attack upon New Orleans, where Gen. Wilkinson was in command, he was ordered to descend the river with fifteen hundred troops to aid Wilkinson. The expedition reached Natchez; and after a delay of several weeks there, without accomplishing anything, the men were ordered back to their homes. But the energy Gen. Jackson had displayed, and his entire devotion to the comfort of his soldiers, won him golden opinions; and he became the most popular man in the State. It was in this expedition that his toughness gave him the nickname of "Old Hickory."

Soon after this, while attempting to horsewhip Col. Thomas H. Benton, for a remark that gentleman made about his taking a part as second in a duel, in which a younger brother of Benton's was engaged, he received two severe pistol wounds. While he was lingering upon a bed of suffering news came that the Indians, who had combined under Tecumseh from Florida to the Lakes, to exterminate the white settlers, were committing the most awful ravages. Decisive action became necessary. Gen. Jackson, with his fractured bone just beginning to heal, his arm in a sling, and unable to mount his horse without assistance, gave his amazing energies to the raising of an army to rendezvous at Favettesville, Alabama.

The Creek Indians had established a strong fort on one of the bends of the Tallapoosa River, near the center of Alabama, about fifty miles below Fort Strother. With an army of two thousand men, Gen. Jackson traversed the pathless wilderness in a march of eleven days. He reached their fort, called Tohopeka or Horse-shoe, on the 27th of March, 1814. The bend

of the river enclosed nearly one hundred acres of tangled forest and wild ravine. Across the narrow neck the Indians had constructed a formidable breast-work of logs and brush. Here nine hundred warriors, with an ample supply of arms were assembled.

The fort was stormed. The fight was utterly desperate. Not an Indian would accept of quarter. When bleeding and dying, they would fight those who endeavored to spare their lives. From ten in the morning until dark, the battle raged. The carnage was awful and revolting. Some threw themselves into the river; but the unerring bullet struck their heads as they swam. Nearly every one of the nine hundred warriors were killed. A few probably, in the night, swam the river and escaped. This ended the war. The power of the Creeks was broken forever. This bold plunge into the wilderness, with its terrific slaughter, so appalled the savages, that the haggard remnants of the bands came to the camp, begging for peace.

This closing of the Creek war enabled us to concentrate all our militia upon the British, who were the allies of the Indians. No man of less resolute will than Gen. Jackson could have conducted this Indian campaign to so successful an issue. Immediately he was appointed major-general.

Late in August, with an army of two thousand men, on a rushing march, Gen. Jackson came to Mobile. A British fleet came from Pensacola, landed a force upon the beach, anchored near the little fort, and from both ship and shore commenced a furious assault. The battle was long and doubtful. At length one of the ships was blown up and the rest retired.

Garrisoning Mobile, where he had taken his little army, he moved his troops to New Orleans. And the battle of New Orleans which soon ensued, was in reality a very arduous campaign. This won for Gen. Jackson an imperishable name. Here his troops, which numbered about four thousand men, won a signal victory over the British army of about nine thousand. His loss was but thirteen, while the loss of the British was two thousand six hundred.

The name of Gen. Jackson soon began to be mentioned in connection with the Presidency, but, in 1824, he was defeated by Mr. Adams. He was, however, successful in the election of 1828, and was re-elected for a second term in 1832. In 1829, just before he assumed the reins of the government, he met with the most terrible affliction of his life in the death of his wife, whom he had loved with a devotion which has perhaps never been surpassed. From the shock of her death he never recovered.

His administration was one of the most memorable in the annals of our country; applauded by one party, condemned by the other. No man had more bitter enemies or warmer friends. At the expiration of his two terms of office he retired to the Hermitage, where he died June 8, 1845. The last years of Mr. Jackson's life were that of a devoted Christian man.





77 van Buren



## MARTIN VAN BUREN.



MARTIN VAN BUREN, the eighth President of the United States, was born at Kinderhook, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1782. He died at the same place, July 24, 1862. His body rests in the cemetery at Kinderhook. Above it is a plain granite shaft fifteen feet high, bearing a simple inscription about half way up on one face. The lot is unfenced, unbordered

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

There is but little in the life of Martin Van Buren of romantic interest. He fought no battles, engaged in no wild adventures. Though his life was stormy in political and intellectual conflicts, and he gained many signal victories, his days passed uneventful in those incidents which give zest to biography. His ancestors, as his name indicates, were of Dutch origin, and were among the earliest emigrants from Holland to the banks of the Hudson. His father was a farmer, residing in the old town of Kinderhook. His mother, also of Dutch lineage, was a woman of superior intelligence and exemplary piety.

He was decidedly a precocious boy, developing unusual activity, vigor and strength of mind. At the age of fourteen, he had finished his academic studies in his native village, and commenced the study of law. As he had not a collegiate education, seven years of study in a law-office were required of him before he could be admitted to the bar. Inspired with a lofty ambition, and conscious of his powers, he pursued his studies with indefatigable industry. After spending six years in an office in his native village,

he went to the city of New York, and prosecuted his studies for the seventh year.

In 1803, Mr. Van Buren, then twenty-one years of age, commenced the practice of law in his native village. The great conflict between the Federal and Republican party was then at its height. Mr. Van Buren was from the beginning a politician. He had, perhaps, imbibed that spirit while listening to the many discussions which had been carried on in his father's hotel. He was in cordial sympathy with Jefferson, and earnestly and eloquently espoused the cause of State Rights; though at that time the Federal party held the supremacy both in his town and State.

His success and increasing reputation led him after six years of practice, to remove to Hudson, the county seat of his county. Here he spent seven years constantly gaining strength by contending in the courts with some of the ablest men who have adorned the bar of his State.

Just before leaving Kinderhook for Hudson, Mr. Van Buren married a lady alike distinguished for beauty and accomplishments. After twelve short years she sank into the grave, the victim of consumption, leaving her husband and four sons to weep over her loss. For twenty-five years, Mr. Van Buren was an earnest, successful, assiduous lawyer. The record of those years is barren in items of public interest. In 1812, when thirty years of age, he was chosen to the State Senate, and gave his strenuous support to Mr. Madison's administration. In 1815, he was appointed Attorney-General, and the next year moved to Albany, the capital of the State.

While he was acknowledged as one of the most prominent leaders of the Democratic party, he had

the moral courage to avow that true democracy did not require that "universal suffrage" which admits the vile, the degraded, the ignorant, to the right of governing the State. In true consistency with his democratic principles, he contended that, while the path leading to the privilege of voting should be open to every man without distinction, no one should be invested with that sacred prerogative, unless he were in some degree qualified for it by intelligence, virtue and some property interests in the welfare of the State.

In 1821 he was elected a member of the United States Senate; and in the same year, he took a seat in the convention to revise the constitution of his native State. His course in this convention secured the approval of men of all parties. No one could doubt the singleness of his endeavors to promote the interests of all classes in the community. In the Senate of the United States, he rose at once to a conspicuous position as an active and useful legislator.

In 1827, John Quincy Adams being then in the Presidential chair, Mr. Van Buren was re-elected to the Senate. He had been from the beginning a determined opposer of the Administration, adopting the "State Rights" view in opposition to what was deemed the Federal proclivities of Mr. Adams.

Soon after this, in 1828, he was chosen Governor of the State of New York, and accordingly resigned his seat in the Senate. Probably no one in the United States contributed so much towards ejecting John Q. Adams from the Presidential chair, and placing in it Andrew Jackson, as did Martin Van Buren. Whether entitled to the reputation or not, he certainly was regarded throughout the United States as one of the most skillful, sagacious and cunning of politicians. It was supposed that no one knew so well as he how to touch the secret springs of action; how to pull all the wires to put his machinery in motion; and how to organize a political army which would, secretly and stealthily accomplish the most gigantic results. By these powers it is said that he outwitted Mr. Adams, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, and secured results which few thought then could be accomplished.

When Andrew Jackson was elected President he appointed Mr. Van Buren Secretary of State. This position he resigned in 1831, and was immediately appointed Minister to England, where he went the same autumn. The Senate, however, when it met, refused to ratify the nomination, and he returned

home, apparently untroubled; was nominated Vice President in the place of Calhoun, at the re-election of President Jackson; and with smiles for all and frowns for none, he took his place at the head of that Senate which had refused to confirm his nomination as ambassador.

His rejection by the Senate roused all the zeal of President Jackson in behalf of his repudiated favorite; and this, probably more than any other cause, secured his elevation to the chair of the Chief Executive. On the 20th of May, 1836, Mr. Van Buren received the Democratic nomination to succeed Gen. Jackson as President of the United States. He was elected by a handsome majority, to the delight of the retiring President. "Leaving New York out of the canvass," says Mr. Parton, "the election of Mr. Van Buren to the Presidency was as much the act of Gen. Jackson as though the Constitution had conferred upon him the power to appoint a successor."

His administration was filled with exciting events. The insurrection in Canada, which threatened to involve this country in war with England, the agitation of the slavery question, and finally the great commercial panic which spread over the country, all were trials to his wisdom. The financial distress was attributed to the management of the Democratic party, and brought the President into such disfavor that he failed of re-election.

With the exception of being nominated for the Presidency by the "Free Soil" Democrats, in 1848, Mr. Van Buren lived quietly upon his estate until his death.

He had ever been a prudent man, of frugal habits, and living within his income, had now fortunately a competence for his declining years. His unblemished character, his commanding abilities, his unquestioned patriotism, and the distinguished positions which he had occupied in the government of our country, secured to him not only the homage of his party, but the respect of the whole community. It was on the 4th of March, 1841, that Mr. Van Buren retired from the presidency. From his fine estate at Lindenwald, he still exerted a powerful influence upon the politics of the country. From this time until his death, on the 24th of July, 1862, at the age of eighty years, he resided at Lindenwald, a gentleman of leisure, of culture and of wealth; enjoying in a healthy old age, probably far more happiness than he had before experienced amid the stormy scenes of his active life.

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*W. H. Harrison*





## WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, the ninth President of the United States, was born at Berkeley, Va., Feb. 9, 1773. His father, Benjamin Harrison, was in comparatively opulent circumstances, and was one of the most distinguished men of his day. He was an intimate friend of George Washington, was early elected a member of the Continental Congress, and was conspicuous among the patriots of Virginia in resisting the encroachments of the British crown. In the celebrated Congress of 1775, Benjamin Harrison and John Hancock were both candidates for the office of speaker.

Mr Harrison was subsequently chosen Governor of Virginia, and was twice re-elected. His son, William Henry, of course enjoyed

in childhood all the advantages which wealth and intellectual and cultivated society could give. Having received a thorough common-school education, he entered Hampden Sidney College, where he graduated with honor soon after the death of his father. He then repaired to Philadelphia to study medicine under the instructions of Dr. Rush and the guardianship of Robert Morris, both of whom were, with his father, signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Upon the outbreak of the Indian troubles, and notwithstanding the remonstrances of his friends, he abandoned his medical studies and entered the army, having obtained a commission of Ensign from Presi-

dent Washington. He was then but 19 years old. From that time he passed gradually upward in rank until he became aid to General Wayne, after whose death he resigned his commission. He was then appointed Secretary of the North-western Territory. This Territory was then entitled to but one member in Congress and Capt. Harrison was chosen to fill that position.

In the spring of 1800 the North-western Territory was divided by Congress into two portions. The eastern portion, comprising the region now embraced in the State of Ohio, was called "The Territory north-west of the Ohio." The western portion, which included what is now called Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, was called the "Indiana Territory." William Henry Harrison, then 27 years of age, was appointed by John Adams, Governor of the Indiana Territory, and immediately after, also Governor of Upper Louisiana. He was thus ruler over almost as extensive a realm as any sovereign upon the globe. He was Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and was invested with powers nearly dictatorial over the now rapidly increasing white population. The ability and fidelity with which he discharged these responsible duties may be inferred from the fact that he was four times appointed to this office—first by John Adams, twice by Thomas Jefferson and afterwards by President Madison.

When he began his administration there were but three white settlements in that almost boundless region, now crowded with cities and resounding with all the tumult of wealth and traffic. One of these settlements was on the Ohio, nearly opposite Louisville; one at Vincennes, on the Wabash, and the third a French settlement.

The vast wilderness over which Gov. Harrison reigned was filled with many tribes of Indians. About

the year 1806, two extraordinary men, twin brothers, of the Shawnese tribe, rose among them. One of these was called Tecumseh, or "The Crouching Panther;" the other, Olliwacheca, or "The Prophet." Tecumseh was not only an Indian warrior, but a man of great sagacity, far-reaching foresight and indomitable perseverance in any enterprise in which he might engage. He was inspired with the highest enthusiasm, and had long regarded with dread and with hatred the encroachment of the whites upon the hunting-grounds of his fathers. His brother, the Prophet, was an orator, who could sway the feelings of the untutored Indian as the gale tossed the tree-tops beneath which they dwelt.

But the Prophet was not merely an orator: he was, in the superstitious minds of the Indians, invested with the superhuman dignity of a medicine-man or a magician. With an enthusiasm unsurpassed by Peter the Hermit rousing Europe to the crusades, he went from tribe to tribe, assuming that he was specially sent by the Great Spirit.

Gov. Harrison made many attempts to conciliate the Indians, but at last the war came, and at Tippecanoe the Indians were routed with great slaughter. October 28, 1812, his army began its march. When near the Prophet's town three Indians of rank made their appearance and inquired why Gov. Harrison was approaching them in so hostile an attitude. After a short conference, arrangements were made for a meeting the next day, to agree upon terms of peace.

But Gov. Harrison was too well acquainted with the Indian character to be deceived by such protestations. Selecting a favorable spot for his night's encampment, he took every precaution against surprise. His troops were posted in a hollow square, and slept upon their arms.

The troops threw themselves upon the ground for rest; but every man had his accoutrements on, his loaded musket by his side, and his bayonet fixed. The wakeful Governor, between three and four o'clock in the morning, had risen, and was sitting in conversation with his aids by the embers of a waning fire. It was a chill, cloudy morning with a drizzling rain. In the darkness, the Indians had crept as near as possible, and just then, with a savage yell, rushed, with all the desperation which superstition and passion most highly inflamed could give, upon the left flank of the little army. The savages had been amply provided with guns and ammunition by the English. Their war-whoop was accompanied by a shower of bullets.

The camp-fires were instantly extinguished, as the light aided the Indians in their aim. With hideous yells, the Indian bands rushed on, not doubting a speedy and an entire victory. But Gen. Harrison's troops stood as immovable as the rocks around them until day dawned: they then made a simultaneous charge with the bayonet, and swept every thing before them, and completely routing the foe.

Gov. Harrison now had all his energies tasked to the utmost. The British descending from the Canadas, were of themselves a very formidable force; but with their savage allies, rushing like wolves from the forest, searching out every remote farm-house, burning, plundering, scalping, torturing, the wide frontier was plunged into a state of consternation which even the most vivid imagination can but faintly conceive. The war-whoop was resounding everywhere in the forest. The horizon was illuminated with the conflagration of the cabins of the settlers. Gen. Hull had made the ignominious surrender of his forces at Detroit. Under these despairing circumstances, Gov. Harrison was appointed by President Madison commander-in-chief of the North-western army, with orders to retake Detroit, and to protect the frontiers.

It would be difficult to place a man in a situation demanding more energy, sagacity and courage; but General Harrison was found equal to the position, and nobly and triumphantly did he meet all the responsibilities.

He won the love of his soldiers by always sharing with them their fatigue. His whole baggage, while pursuing the foe up the Thames, was carried in a valise; and his bedding consisted of a single blanket lashed over his saddle. Thirty-five British officers, his prisoners of war, supped with him after the battle. The only fare he could give them was beef roasted before the fire, without bread or salt.

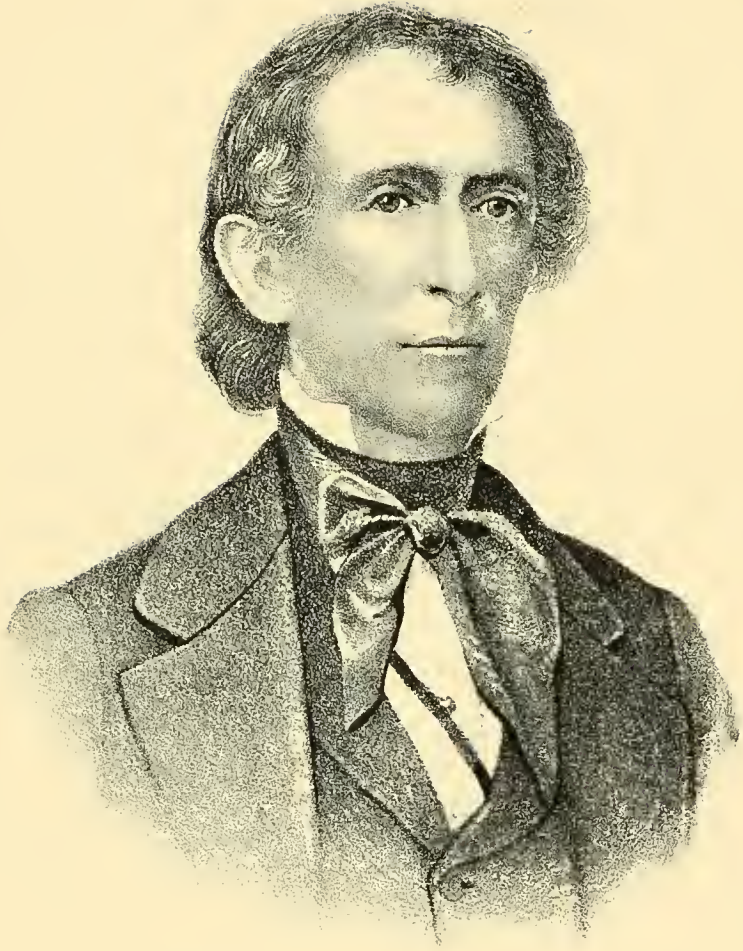
In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

In 1819, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio; and in 1824, as one of the presidential electors of that State, he gave his vote for Henry Clay. The same year he was chosen to the United States Senate.

In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency. The contest was very animated. Gen. Jackson gave all his influence to prevent Harrison's election; but his triumph was signal.

The cabinet which he formed, with Daniel Webster at its head as Secretary of State, was one of the most brilliant with which any President had ever been surrounded. Never were the prospects of an administration more flattering, or the hopes of the country more sanguine. In the midst of these bright and joyous prospects, Gen. Harrison was seized by a pleurisy-fever and after a few days of violent sickness, died on the 4th of April; just one month after his inauguration as President of the United States.

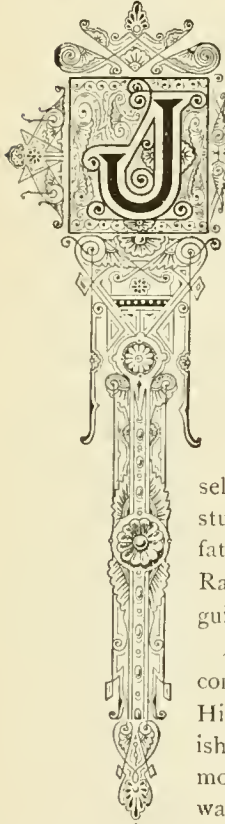
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John Tyler



## JOHN TYLER.



JOHN TYLER, the tenth President of the United States. He was born in Charles-city Co., Va., March 29, 1790. He was the favored child of affluence and high social position. At the early age of twelve, John entered William and Mary College and graduated with much honor when but seventeen years old. After graduating, he devoted himself with great assiduity to the study of law, partly with his father and partly with Edmund Randolph, one of the most distinguished lawyers of Virginia.

At nineteen years of age, he commenced the practice of law. His success was rapid and astonishing. It is said that three months had not elapsed ere there was scarcely a case on the docket of the court in which he was

not retained. When but twenty-one years of age, he was almost unanimously elected to a seat in the State Legislature. He connected himself with the Democratic party, and warmly advocated the measures of Jefferson and Madison. For five successive years he was elected to the Legislature, receiving nearly the unanimous vote of his county.

When but twenty-six years of age, he was elected a member of Congress. Here he acted earnestly and ably with the Democratic party, opposing a national bank, internal improvements by the General Govern-

ment, a protective tariff, and advocating a strict construction of the Constitution, and the most careful vigilance over State rights. His labors in Congress were so arduous that before the close of his second term he found it necessary to resign and retire to his estate in Charles-city Co., to recruit his health. He, however, soon after consented to take his seat in the State Legislature, where his influence was powerful in promoting public works of great utility. With a reputation thus constantly increasing, he was chosen by a very large majority of votes, Governor of his native State. His administration was signally a successful one. His popularity secured his re-election.

John Randolph, a brilliant, erratic, half-crazed man, then represented Virginia in the Senate of the United States. A portion of the Democratic party was displeased with Mr. Randolph's wayward course, and brought forward John Tyler as his opponent, considering him the only man in Virginia of sufficient popularity to succeed against the renowned orator of Roanoke. Mr. Tyler was the victor.

In accordance with his professions, upon taking his seat in the Senate, he joined the ranks of the opposition. He opposed the tariff; he spoke against and voted against the bank as unconstitutional; he strenuously opposed all restrictions upon slavery, resisting all projects of internal improvements by the General Government, and avowed his sympathy with Mr. Calhoun's view of nullification; he declared that Gen. Jackson, by his opposition to the nullifiers, had abandoned the principles of the Democratic party. Such was Mr. Tyler's record in Congress,—a record in perfect accordance with the principles which he had always avowed.

Returning to Virginia, he resumed the practice of his profession. There was a split in the Democratic

party. His friends still regarded him as a true Jeffersonian, gave him a dinner, and showered compliments upon him. He had now attained the age of forty-six. His career had been very brilliant. In consequence of his devotion to public business, his private affairs had fallen into some disorder; and it was not without satisfaction that he resumed the practice of law, and devoted himself to the culture of his plantation. Soon after this he removed to Williamsburg, for the better education of his children; and he again took his seat in the Legislature of Virginia.

By the Southern Whigs, he was sent to the national convention at Harrisburg to nominate a President in 1839. The majority of votes were given to Gen. Harrison, a genuine Whig, much to the disappointment of the South, who wished for Henry Clay. To conciliate the Southern Whigs and to secure their vote, the convention then nominated John Tyler for Vice President. It was well known that he was not in sympathy with the Whig party in the North; but the Vice President has but very little power in the Government, his main and almost only duty being to preside over the meetings of the Senate. Thus it happened that a Whig President, and, in reality, a Democratic Vice President were chosen.

In 1841, Mr. Tyler was inaugurated Vice President of the United States. In one short month from that time, President Harrison died, and Mr. Tyler thus found himself, to his own surprise and that of the whole Nation, an occupant of the Presidential chair. This was a new test of the stability of our institutions, as it was the first time in the history of our country that such an event had occurred. Mr. Tyler was at home in Williamsburg when he received the unexpected tidings of the death of President Harrison. He hastened to Washington, and on the 6th of April was inaugurated to the high and responsible office. He was placed in a position of exceeding delicacy and difficulty. All his long life he had been opposed to the main principles of the party which had brought him into power. He had ever been a consistent, honest man, with an unblemished record. Gen. Harrison had selected a Whig cabinet. Should he retain them, and thus surround himself with counsellors whose views were antagonistic to his own? or, on the other hand, should he turn against the party which had elected him and select a cabinet in harmony with himself, and which would oppose all those views which the Whigs deemed essential to the public welfare? This was his fearful dilemma. He invited the cabinet which President Harrison had selected to retain their seats. He recommended a day of fasting and prayer, that God would guide and bless us.

The Whigs carried through Congress a bill for the incorporation of a fiscal bank of the United States. The President, after ten days' delay, returned it with his veto. He suggested, however, that he would

approve of a bill drawn up upon such a plan as he proposed. Such a bill was accordingly prepared, and privately submitted to him. He gave it his approval. It was passed without alteration, and he sent it back with his veto. Here commenced the open rupture. It is said that Mr. Tyler was provoked to this measure by a published letter from the Hon. John M. Botts, a distinguished Virginia Whig, who severely touched the pride of the President.

The opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his cabinet, excepting Mr. Webster, resigned. The Whigs of Congress, both the Senate and the House, held a meeting and issued an address to the people of the United States, proclaiming that all political alliance between the Whigs and President Tyler were at an end.

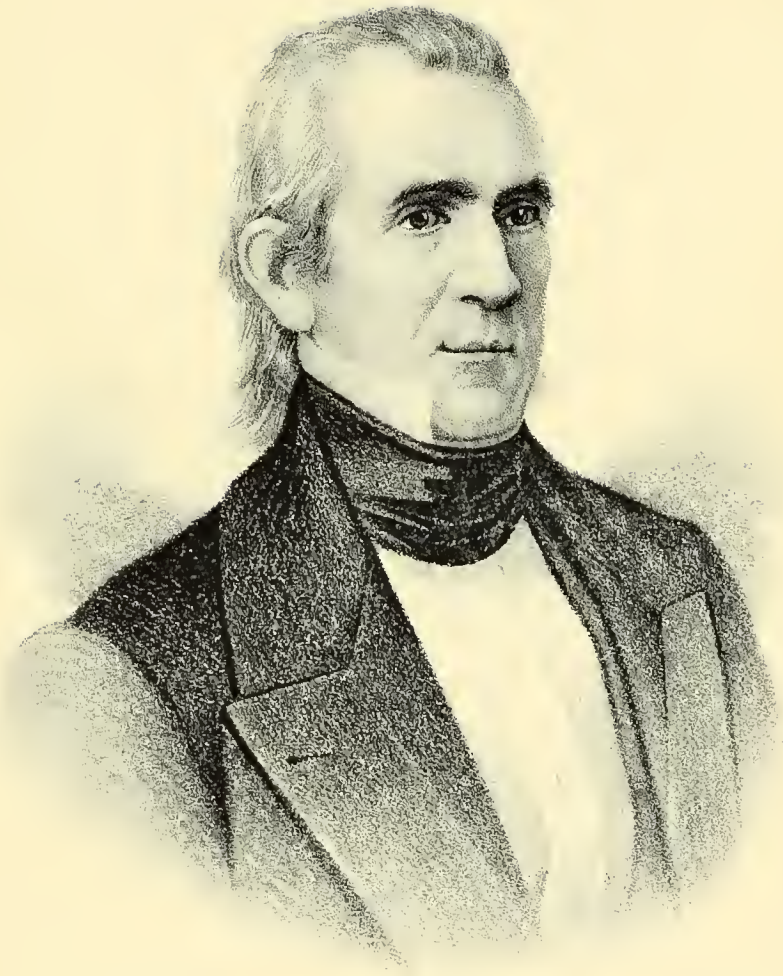
Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration passed sadly away. No one was satisfied. The land was filled with murmurs and vituperation. Whigs and Democrats alike assailed him. More and more, however, he brought himself into sympathy with his old friends, the Democrats, until at the close of his term, he gave his whole influence to the support of Mr. Polk, the Democratic candidate for his successor.

On the 4th of March, 1845, he retired from the harassments of office, to the regret of neither party, and probably to his own unspeakable relief. His first wife, Miss Letitia Christian, died in Washington, in 1842; and in June, 1844, President Tyler was again married, at New York, to Miss Julia Gardiner, a young lady of many personal and intellectual accomplishments.

The remainder of his days Mr. Tyler passed mainly in retirement at his beautiful home,—Sherwood Forest, Charles-city Co., Va. A polished gentleman in his manners, richly furnished with information from books and experience in the world, and possessing brilliant powers of conversation, his family circle was the scene of unusual attractions. With sufficient means for the exercise of a generous hospitality, he might have enjoyed a serene old age with the few friends who gathered around him, were it not for the storms of civil war which his own principles and policy had helped to introduce.

When the great Rebellion rose, which the State-rights and nullifying doctrines of Mr. John C. Calhoun had inaugurated, President Tyler renounced his allegiance to the United States, and joined the Confederates. He was chosen a member of their Congress; and while engaged in active measures to destroy, by force of arms, the Government over which he had once presided, he was taken sick and soon died.

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James K. Polk





## JAMES K. POLK.

**J**AMES K. POLK, the eleventh President of the United States, was born in Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Nov. 2, 1795. His parents were Samuel and Jane (Knox) Polk, the former a son of Col. Thomas Polk, who located at the above place, as one of the first pioneers, in 1735.

In the year 1806, with his wife and children, and soon after followed by most of the members of the Polk family, Samuel Polk emigrated some two or three hundred miles farther west, to the rich valley of the Duck River. Here in the midst of the wilderness, in a region which was subsequently called Maury Co., they reared their log huts, and established their homes. In the hard toil of a new farm in the wilderness, James K. Polk spent the early years of his childhood and youth. His father, adding the pursuit of a surveyor to that of a farmer, gradually increased in wealth until

he became one of the leading men of the region. His mother was a superior woman, of strong common sense and earnest piety.

Very early in life, James developed a taste for reading and expressed the strongest desire to obtain a liberal education. His mother's training had made him methodical in his habits, had taught him punctuality and industry, and had inspired him with lofty principles of morality. His health was frail; and his father, fearing that he might not be able to endure a

sedentary life, got a situation for him behind the counter, hoping to fit him for commercial pursuits.

This was to James a bitter disappointment. He had no taste for these duties, and his daily tasks were irksome in the extreme. He remained in this uncongenial occupation but a few weeks, when at his earnest solicitation his father removed him, and made arrangements for him to prosecute his studies. Soon after he sent him to Murfreesboro Academy. With ardor which could scarcely be surpassed, he pressed forward in his studies, and in less than two and a half years, in the autumn of 1815, entered the sophomore class in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill. Here he was one of the most exemplary of scholars, punctual in every exercise, never allowing himself to be absent from a recitation or a religious service.

He graduated in 1818, with the highest honors, being deemed the best scholar of his class, both in mathematics and the classics. He was then twenty-three years of age. Mr. Polk's health was at this time much impaired by the assiduity with which he had prosecuted his studies. After a short season of relaxation he went to Nashville, and entered the office of Felix Grundy, to study law. Here Mr. Polk renewed his acquaintance with Andrew Jackson, who resided on his plantation, the Hermitage, but a few miles from Nashville. They had probably been slightly acquainted before.

Mr. Polk's father was a Jeffersonian Republican, and James K. Polk ever adhered to the same political faith. He was a popular public speaker, and was constantly called upon to address the meetings of his party friends. His skill as a speaker was such that he was popularly called the Napoleon of the stump. He was a man of unblemished morals, genial and

courteous in his bearing, and with that sympathetic nature in the joys and griefs of others which ever gave him troops of friends. In 1823, Mr. Polk was elected to the Legislature of Tennessee. Here he gave his strong influence towards the election of his friend, Mr. Jackson, to the Presidency of the United States.

In January, 1824, Mr. Polk married Miss Sarah Childress, of Rutherford Co., Tenn. His bride was altogether worthy of him,—a lady of beauty and culture. In the fall of 1825, Mr. Polk was chosen a member of Congress. The satisfaction which he gave to his constituents may be inferred from the fact, that for fourteen successive years, until 1839, he was continued in that office. He then voluntarily withdrew, only that he might accept the Gubernatorial chair of Tennessee. In Congress he was a laborious member, a frequent and a popular speaker. He was always in his seat, always courteous; and whenever he spoke it was always to the point, and without any ambitious rhetorical display.

During five sessions of Congress, Mr. Polk was Speaker of the House. Strong passions were roused, and stormy scenes were witnessed; but Mr. Polk performed his arduous duties to a very general satisfaction, and a unanimous vote of thanks to him was passed by the House as he withdrew on the 4th of March, 1839.

In accordance with Southern usage, Mr. Polk, as a candidate for Governor, canvassed the State. He was elected by a large majority, and on the 14th of October, 1839, took the oath of office at Nashville. In 1841, his term of office expired, and he was again the candidate of the Democratic party, but was defeated.

On the 4th of March, 1845, Mr. Polk was inaugurated President of the United States. The verdict of the country in favor of the annexation of Texas, exerted its influence upon Congress; and the last act of the administration of President Tyler was to affix his signature to a joint resolution of Congress, passed on the 3d of March, approving of the annexation of Texas to the American Union. As Mexico still claimed Texas as one of her provinces, the Mexican minister, Almonte, immediately demanded his passports and left the country, declaring the act of the annexation to be an act hostile to Mexico.

In his first message, President Polk urged that Texas should immediately, by act of Congress, be received into the Union on the same footing with the other States. In the meantime, Gen. Taylor was sent

with an army into Texas to hold the country. He was sent first to Nueces, which the Mexicans said was the western boundary of Texas. Then he was sent nearly two hundred miles further west, to the Rio Grande, where he erected batteries which commanded the Mexican city of Matamoras, which was situated on the western banks.

The anticipated collision soon took place, and war was declared against Mexico by President Polk. The war was pushed forward by Mr. Polk's administration with great vigor. Gen. Taylor, whose army was first called one of "observation," then of "occupation," then of "invasion," was sent forward to Monterey. The feeble Mexicans, in every encounter, were hopelessly and awfully slaughtered. The day of judgement alone can reveal the misery which this war caused. It was by the ingenuity of Mr. Polk's administration that the war was brought on.


"To the victors belong the spoils." Mexico was prostrate before us. Her capital was in our hands. We now consented to peace upon the condition that Mexico should surrender to us, in addition to Texas, all of New Mexico, and all of Upper and Lower California. This new demand embraced, exclusive of Texas, eight hundred thousand square miles. This was an extent of territory equal to nine States of the size of New York. Thus slavery was securing eighteen majestic States to be added to the Union. There were some Americans who thought it all right: there were others who thought it all wrong. In the prosecution of this war, we expended twenty thousand lives and more than a hundred million of dollars. Of this money fifteen millions were paid to Mexico.

On the 3d of March, 1849, Mr. Polk retired from office, having served one term. The next day was Sunday. On the 5th, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated as his successor. Mr. Polk rode to the Capitol in the same carriage with Gen. Taylor; and the same evening, with Mrs. Polk, he commenced his return to Tennessee. He was then but fifty-four years of age. He had ever been strictly temperate in all his habits, and his health was good. With an ample fortune, a choice library, a cultivated mind, and domestic ties of the dearest nature, it seemed as though long years of tranquility and happiness were before him. But the cholera—that fearful scourge—was then sweeping up the Valley of the Mississippi. This he contracted, and died on the 15th of June, 1849, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, greatly mourned by his countrymen.

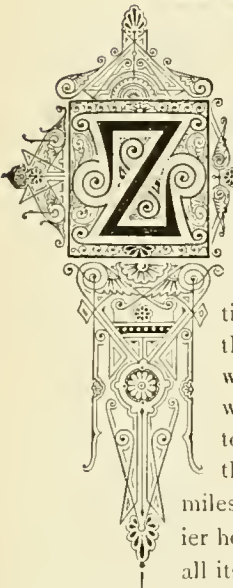




*Zachary Taylor*



## ZACHARY TAYLOR.



ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary

could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character. He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

In 1808, his father succeeded in obtaining for him the commission of lieutenant in the United States army; and he joined the troops which were stationed at New Orleans under Gen. Wilkinson. Soon after this he married Miss Margaret Smith, a young lady from one of the first families of Maryland.

Immediately after the declaration of war with England, in 1812, Capt. Taylor (for he had then been promoted to that rank) was put in command of Fort Harrison, on the Wabash, about fifty miles above Vincennes. This fort had been built in the wilderness by Gen. Harrison, on his march to Tippecanoe. It was one of the first points of attack by the Indians, led by Tecumseh. Its garrison consisted of a broken

company of infantry numbering fifty men, many of whom were sick.

Early in the autumn of 1812, the Indians, stealthily, and in large numbers, moved upon the fort. Their approach was first indicated by the murder of two soldiers just outside of the stockade. Capt. Taylor made every possible preparation to meet the anticipated assault. On the 4th of September, a band of forty painted and plumed savages came to the fort, waving a white flag, and informed Capt. Taylor that in the morning their chief would come to have a talk with him. It was evident that their object was merely to ascertain the state of things at the fort, and Capt. Taylor, well versed in the wiles of the savages, kept them at a distance.

The sun went down; the savages disappeared. The garrison slept upon their arms. One hour before midnight the war whoop burst from a thousand lips in the forest around, followed by the discharge of musketry, and the rush of the foe. Every man, sick and well, sprang to his post. Every man knew that defeat was not merely death, but in the case of capture, death by the most agonizing and prolonged torture. No pen can describe, no imagination can conceive the scenes which ensued. The savages succeeded in setting fire to one of the block-houses. Until six o'clock in the morning, this awful conflict continued. The savages then, baffled at every point, and gnashing their teeth with rage, retired. Capt. Taylor, for this galliant defence, was promoted to the rank of major by brevet.

Until the close of the war, Major Taylor was placed in such situations that he saw but little more of active service. He was sent far away into the depths of the wilderness, to Fort Crawford, on Fox River, which empties into Green Bay. Here there was but little to be done but to wear away the tedious hours as one best could. There were no books, no society, no in-

tellectual stimulus. Thus with him the uneventful years rolled on. Gradually he rose to the rank of colonel. In the Black Hawk war, which resulted in the capture of that renowned chieftain, Col. Taylor took a subordinate but a brave and efficient part.

For twenty-four years Col. Taylor was engaged in the defence of the frontiers, in scenes so remote, and in employments so obscure, that his name was unknown beyond the limits of his own immediate acquaintance. In the year 1836, he was sent to Florida to compel the Seminole Indians to vacate that region and retire beyond the Mississippi, as their chiefs by treaty, had promised they should do. The services rendered here secured for Col. Taylor the high appreciation of the Government; and as a reward, he was elevated to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet; and soon after, in May, 1838, was appointed to the chief command of the United States troops in Florida.

After two years of such wearisome employment amidst the everglades of the peninsula, Gen. Taylor obtained, at his own request, a change of command, and was stationed over the Department of the Southwest. This field embraced Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Establishing his headquarters at Fort Jessup, in Louisiana, he removed his family to a plantation which he purchased, near Baton Rouge. Here he remained for five years, buried, as it were, from the world, but faithfully discharging every duty imposed upon him.

In 1846, Gen. Taylor was sent to guard the land between the Nueces and Rio Grande, the latter river being the boundary of Texas, which was then claimed by the United States. Soon the war with Mexico was brought on, and at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, Gen. Taylor won brilliant victories over the Mexicans. The rank of major-general by brevet was then conferred upon Gen. Taylor, and his name was received with enthusiasm almost everywhere in the Nation. Then came the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista in which he won signal victories over forces much larger than he commanded.

His careless habits of dress and his unaffected simplicity, secured for Gen. Taylor among his troops, the *sobriquet* of "Old Rough and Ready."

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, unadorned, honest soldier as their candidate for the Presidency. Gen. Taylor was astonished at the announcement, and for a time would not listen to it; declaring that he was not at all qualified for such an office. So little interest had he taken in politics that, for forty years, he had not cast a vote. It was not without chagrin that several distinguished statesmen who had been long years in the public service found their claims set aside in behalf of one whose name

had never been heard of, save in connection with Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey and Buena Vista. It is said that Daniel Webster, in his haste remarked, "It is a nomination not fit to be made."

Gen. Taylor was not an eloquent speaker nor a fine writer. His friends took possession of him, and prepared such few communications as it was needful should be presented to the public. The popularity of the successful warrior swept the land. He was triumphantly elected over two opposing candidates,—Gen. Cass and Ex-President Martin Van Buren. Though he selected an excellent cabinet, the good old man found himself in a very uncongenial position, and was, at times, sorely perplexed and harassed. His mental sufferings were very severe, and probably tended to hasten his death. The pro-slavery party was pushing its claims with tireless energy, expeditions were fitting out to capture Cuba; California was pleading for admission to the Union, while slavery stood at the door to bar her out. Gen. Taylor found the political conflicts in Washington to be far more trying to the nerves than battles with Mexicans or Indians.

In the midst of all these troubles, Gen. Taylor, after he had occupied the Presidential chair but little over a year, took cold, and after a brief sickness of but little over five days, died on the 9th of July, 1850. His last words were, "I am not afraid to die. I am ready. I have endeavored to do my duty." He died universally respected and beloved. An honest, unpretending man, he had been steadily growing in the affections of the people; and the Nation bitterly lamented his death.

Gen. Scott, who was thoroughly acquainted with Gen. Taylor, gave the following graphic and truthful description of his character:—"With a good store of common sense, Gen. Taylor's mind had not been enlarged and refreshed by reading, or much converse with the world. Rigidity of ideas was the consequence. The frontiers and small military posts had been his home. Hence he was quite ignorant for his rank, and quite bigoted in his ignorance. His simplicity was child-like, and with innumerable prejudices, amusing and incorrigible, well suited to the tender age. Thus, if a man, however respectable, chanced to wear a coat of an unusual color, or his hat a little on one side of his head; or an officer to leave a corner of his handkerchief dangling from an outside pocket,—in any such case, this critic held the offender to be a coxcomb (perhaps something worse), whom he would not, to use his oft repeated phrase, 'touch with a pair of tongs.'

"Any allusion to literature beyond good old Dilworth's spelling-book, on the part of one wearing a sword, was evidence, with the same judge, of utter unfitness for heavy marchings and combats. In short few men have ever had a more comfortable, labor-saving contempt for learning of every kind."



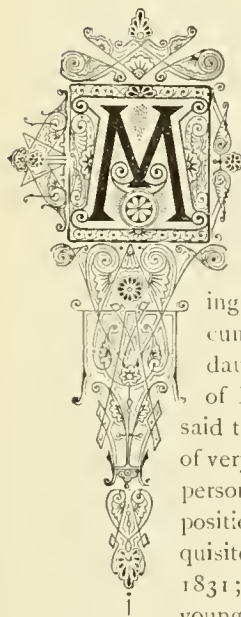


*Willard P. Snow*





## MILLARD FILLMORE.



use, though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

In consequence of the secluded home and limited means of his father, Millard enjoyed but slender advantages for education in his early years. The common schools, which he occasionally attended were very imperfect institutions; and books were scarce and expensive. There was nothing then in his character to indicate the brilliant career upon which he was about to enter. He was a plain farmer's boy; intelligent, good-looking, kind-hearted. The sacred influences of home had taught him to revere the Bible, and had laid the foundations of an upright character. When fourteen years of age, his father sent him some hundred miles from home, to the then wilds of Livingston County, to learn the trade of a clothier. Near the mill there was a small villiage, where some

enterprising man had commenced the collection of a village library. This proved an inestimable blessing to young Fillmore. His evenings were spent in reading. Soon every leisure moment was occupied with books. His thirst for knowledge became insatiate and the selections which he made were continually more elevating and instructive. He read history, biography, oratory, and thus gradually there was enkindled in his heart a desire to be something more than a mere worker with his hands; and he was becoming, almost unknown to himself, a well-informed, educated man.

The young clothier had now attained the age of nineteen years, and was of fine personal appearance and of gentlemanly demeanor. It so happened that there was a gentleman in the neighborhood of ample pecuniary means and of benevolence,—Judge Walter Wood,—who was struck with the prepossessing appearance of young Fillmore. He made his acquaintance, and was so much impressed with his ability and attainments that he advised him to abandon his trade and devote himself to the study of the law. The young man replied, that he had no means of his own. no friends to help him and that his previous education had been very imperfect. But Judge Wood had so much confidence in him that he kindly offered to take him into his own office, and to loan him such money as he needed. Most gratefully the generous offer was accepted.

There is in many minds a strange delusion about a collegiate education. A young man is supposed to be liberally educated if he has graduated at some college. But many a boy loiters through university hall and then enters a law office, who is by no means as

well prepared to prosecute his legal studies as was Millard Fillmore when he graduated at the clothing-mill at the end of four years of manual labor, during which every leisure moment had been devoted to intense mental culture.

In 1823, when twenty-three years of age, he was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas. He then went to the village of Aurora, and commenced the practice of law. In this secluded, peaceful region, his practice of course was limited, and there was no opportunity for a sudden rise in fortune or in fame. Here, in the year 1826, he married a lady of great moral worth, and one capable of adorning any station she might be called to fill,—Miss Abigail Powers.

His elevation of character, his untiring industry, his legal acquirements, and his skill as an advocate, gradually attracted attention; and he was invited to enter into partnership under highly advantageous circumstances, with an elder member of the bar in Buffalo. Just before removing to Buffalo, in 1829, he took his seat in the House of Assembly, of the State of New York, as a representative from Erie County. Though he had never taken a very active part in politics, his vote and his sympathies were with the Whig party. The State was then Democratic, and he found himself in a helpless minority in the Legislature, still the testimony comes from all parties, that his courtesy, ability and integrity, won, to a very unusual degree the respect of his associates.

In the autumn of 1832, he was elected to a seat in the United States Congress. He entered that troubled arena in some of the most tumultuous hours of our national history. The great conflict respecting the national bank and the removal of the deposits, was then raging.

His term of two years closed; and he returned to his profession, which he pursued with increasing reputation and success. After a lapse of two years he again became a candidate for Congress; was re-elected, and took his seat in 1837. His past experience as a representative gave him strength and confidence. The first term of service in Congress to any man can be but little more than an introduction. He was now prepared for active duty. All his energies were brought to bear upon the public good. Every measure received his impress.

Mr. Fillmore was now a man of wide repute, and his popularity filled the State, and in the year 1847, he was elected Comptroller of the State.

Mr. Fillmore had attained the age of forty-seven years. His labors at the bar, in the Legislature, in Congress and as Comptroller, had given him very considerable fame. The Whigs were casting about to find suitable candidates for President and Vice-President at the approaching election. Far away, on the waters of the Rio Grande, there was a rough old soldier, who had fought one or two successful battles with the Mexicans, which had caused his name to be proclaimed in trumpet-tones all over the land. But it was necessary to associate with him on the same ticket some man of reputation as a statesman.

Under the influence of these considerations, the names of Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore became the rallying-cry of the Whigs, as their candidates for President and Vice-President. The Whig ticket was signally triumphant. On the 4th of March, 1849, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated President, and Millard Fillmore Vice-President, of the United States.

On the 9th of July, 1850, President Taylor, but about one year and four months after his inauguration, was suddenly taken sick and died. By the Constitution, Vice-President Fillmore thus became President. He appointed a very able cabinet, of which the illustrious Daniel Webster was Secretary of State.

Mr. Fillmore had very serious difficulties to contend with, since the opposition had a majority in both Houses. He did everything in his power to conciliate the South; but the pro-slavery party in the South felt the inadequacy of all measures of transient conciliation. The population of the free States was so rapidly increasing over that of the slave States that it was inevitable that the power of the Government should soon pass into the hands of the free States. The famous compromise measures were adopted under Mr. Fillmore's administration, and the Japan Expedition was sent out. On the 4th of March, 1853, Mr. Fillmore, having served one term, retired.

In 1856, Mr. Fillmore was nominated for the Presidency by the "Know Nothing" party, but was beaten by Mr. Buchanan. After that Mr. Fillmore lived in retirement. During the terrible conflict of civil war, he was mostly silent. It was generally supposed that his sympathies were rather with those who were endeavoring to overthrow our institutions. President Fillmore kept aloof from the conflict, without any cordial words of cheer to the one party or the other. He was thus forgotten by both. He lived to a ripe old age, and died in Buffalo, N. Y., March 8, 1874.

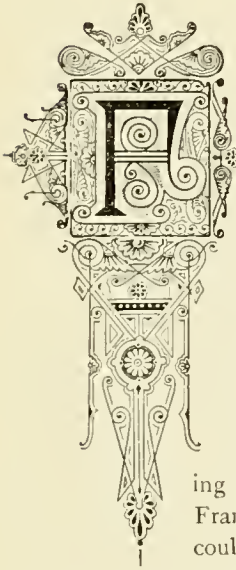
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*Franklin Pierce*



## FRANKLIN PIERCE.



FRANKLIN PIERCE, the fourteenth President of the United States, was born in Hillsborough, N. H., Nov. 23, 1804. His father was a Revolutionary soldier, who, with his own strong arm, hewed out a home in the wilderness. He was a man of inflexible integrity; of strong, though uncultivated mind, and an uncompromising Democrat. The mother of Franklin Pierce was all that a son could desire,—an intelligent, prudent, affectionate, Christian wom-

an. Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

Franklin was a very bright and handsome boy, generous, warm-hearted and brave. He won alike the love of old and young. The boys on the play ground loved him. His teachers loved him. The neighbors looked upon him with pride and affection. He was by instinct a gentleman; always speaking kind words, doing kind deeds, with a peculiar unstudied tact which taught him what was agreeable. Without developing any precocity of genius, or any unnatural devotion to books, he was a good scholar; in body, in mind, in affections, a finely-developed boy.

When sixteen years of age, in the year 1820, he entered Bowdoin College, at Brunswick, Me. He was one of the most popular young men in the college. The purity of his moral character, the unvarying courtesy of his demeanor, his rank as a scholar, and

genial nature, rendered him a universal favorite. There was something very peculiarly winning in his address, and it was evidently not in the slightest degree studied: it was the simple outgushing of his own magnanimous and loving nature.

Upon graduating, in the year 1824, Franklin Pierce commenced the study of law in the office of Judge Woodbury, one of the most distinguished lawyers of the State, and a man of great private worth. The eminent social qualities of the young lawyer, his father's prominence as a public man, and the brilliant political career into which Judge Woodbury was entering, all tended to entice Mr. Pierce into the fascinating yet perilous path of political life. With all the ardor of his nature he espoused the cause of Gen. Jackson for the Presidency. He commenced the practice of law in Hillsborough, and was soon elected to represent the town in the State Legislature. Here he served for four years. The last two years he was chosen speaker of the house by a very large vote.

In 1833, at the age of twenty-nine, he was elected a member of Congress. Without taking an active part in debates, he was faithful and laborious in duty and ever rising in the estimation of those with whom he was associated.

In 1837, being then but thirty-three years of age, he was elected to the Senate of the United States; taking his seat just as Mr. Van Buren commenced his administration. He was the youngest member in the Senate. In the year 1834, he married Miss Jane Means Appleton, a lady of rare beauty and accomplishments, and one admirably fitted to adorn every station with which her husband was honored. Of the

three sons who were born to them, all now sleep with their parents in the grave.

In the year 1838, Mr. Pierce, with growing fame and increasing business as a lawyer, took up his residence in Concord, the capital of New Hampshire. President Polk, upon his accession to office, appointed Mr. Pierce attorney-general of the United States; but the offer was declined, in consequence of numerous professional engagements at home, and the precarious state of Mrs. Pierce's health. He also, about the same time declined the nomination for governor by the Democratic party. The war with Mexico called Mr. Pierce in the army. Receiving the appointment of brigadier-general, he embarked, with a portion of his troops, at Newport, R. I., on the 27th of May, 1847. He took an important part in this war, proving himself a brave and true soldier.

When Gen. Pierce reached his home in his native State, he was received enthusiastically by the advocates of the Mexican war, and coldly by his opponents. He resumed the practice of his profession, very frequently taking an active part in political questions, giving his cordial support to the pro-slavery wing of the Democratic party. The compromise measures met cordially with his approval; and he strenuously advocated the enforcement of the infamous fugitive-slave law, which so shocked the religious sensibilities of the North. He thus became distinguished as a "Northern man with Southern principles." The strong partisans of slavery in the South consequently regarded him as a man whom they could safely trust in office to carry out their plans.

On the 12th of June, 1852, the Democratic convention met in Baltimore to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. For four days they continued in session, and in thirty-five ballotings no one had obtained a two-thirds vote. Not a vote thus far had been thrown for Gen. Pierce. Then the Virginia delegation brought forward his name. There were fourteen more ballotings, during which Gen. Pierce constantly gained strength, until, at the forty-ninth ballot, he received two hundred and eighty-two votes, and all other candidates eleven. Gen. Winfield Scott was the Whig candidate. Gen. Pierce was chosen with great unanimity. Only four States—Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Tennessee—cast their electoral votes against him. Gen. Franklin Pierce was therefore inaugurated President of the United States on the 4th of March, 1853.

His administration proved one of the most stormy our country had ever experienced. The controversy between slavery and freedom was then approaching its culminating point. It became evident that there was an "irrepressible conflict" between them, and that this Nation could not long exist "half slave and half free." President Pierce, during the whole of his administration, did every thing he could to conciliate the South; but it was all in vain. The conflict every year grew more violent, and threats of the dissolution of the Union were borne to the North on every Southern breeze.

Such was the condition of affairs when President Pierce approached the close of his four-years' term of office. The North had become thoroughly alienated from him. The anti-slavery sentiment, goaded by great outrages, had been rapidly increasing; all the intellectual ability and social worth of President Pierce were forgotten in deep reprehension of his administrative acts. The slaveholders of the South, also, unmindful of the fidelity with which he had advocated those measures of Government which they approved, and perhaps, also, feeling that he had rendered himself so unpopular as no longer to be able acceptably to serve them, ungratefully dropped him, and nominated James Buchanan to succeed him.

On the 4th of March, 1857, President Pierce retired to his home in Concord. Of three children, two had died, and his only surviving child had been killed before his eyes by a railroad accident; and his wife, one of the most estimable and accomplished of ladies, was rapidly sinking in consumption. The hour of dreadful gloom soon came, and he was left alone in the world, without wife or child.

When the terrible Rebellion burst forth, which divided our country into two parties, and two only, Mr. Pierce remained steadfast in the principles which he had always cherished, and gave his sympathies to that pro-slavery party with which he had ever been allied. He declined to do anything, either by voice or pen, to strengthen the hand of the National Government. He continued to reside in Concord until the time of his death, which occurred in October, 1869. He was one of the most genial and social of men, an honored communicant of the Episcopal Church, and one of the kindest of neighbors. Generous to a fault, he contributed liberally for the alleviation of suffering and want, and many of his town-people were often gladdened by his material bounty.



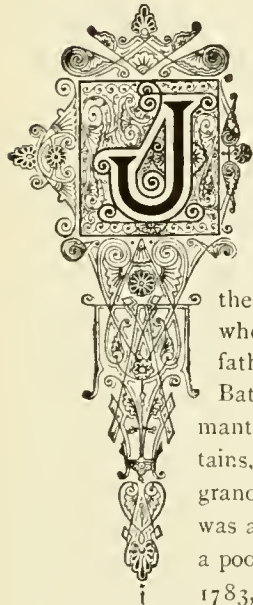


*James Buchanan*





# JAMES BUCHANAN.



JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghenies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers en-

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

In the year 1809, he graduated with the highest honors of his class. He was then eighteen years of age; tall and graceful, vigorous in health, fond of athletic sport, an unerring shot, and enlivened with an exuberant flow of animal spirits. He immediately commenced the study of law in the city of Lancaster, and was admitted to the bar in 1812, when he was but twenty-one years of age. Very rapidly he rose in his profession, and at once took undisputed stand with the ablest lawyers of the State. When but twenty-six years of age, unaided by counsel, he successfully defended before the State Senate one of the judges of the State, who was tried upon articles of impeachment. At the age of thirty it was generally admitted that he stood at the head of the bar; and there was no lawyer in the State who had a more lucrative practice.

In 1820, he reluctantly consented to run as a candidate for Congress. He was elected, and for ten years he remained a member of the Lower House. During the vacations of Congress, he occasionally tried some important case. In 1831, he retired altogether from the toils of his profession, having acquired an ample fortune.

Gen. Jackson, upon his elevation to the Presidency, appointed Mr. Buchanan minister to Russia. The duties of his mission he performed with ability, which gave satisfaction to all parties. Upon his return, in 1833, he was elected to a seat in the United States Senate. He there met, as his associates, Webster, Clay, Wright and Calhoun. He advocated the measures proposed by President Jackson, of making repre-

sals against France, to enforce the payment of our claims against that country; and defended the course of the President in his unprecedented and wholesale removal from office of those who were not the supporters of his administration. Upon this question he was brought into direct collision with Henry Clay. He also, with voice and vote, advocated expunging from the journal of the Senate the vote of censure against Gen. Jackson for removing the deposits. Earnestly he opposed the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and urged the prohibition of the circulation of anti-slavery documents by the United States mails.

As to petitions on the subject of slavery, he advocated that they should be respectfully received; and that the reply should be returned, that Congress had no power to legislate upon the subject. "Congress," said he, "might as well undertake to interfere with slavery under a foreign government as in any of the States where it now exists."

Upon Mr. Polk's accession to the Presidency, Mr. Buchanan became Secretary of State, and as such, took his share of the responsibility in the conduct of the Mexican War. Mr. Polk assumed that crossing the Nueces by the American troops into the disputed territory was not wrong, but for the Mexicans to cross the Rio Grande into that territory was a declaration of war. No candid man can read with pleasure the account of the course our Government pursued in that movement.

Mr. Buchanan identified himself thoroughly with the party devoted to the perpetuation and extension of slavery, and brought all the energies of his mind to bear against the Wilmot Proviso. He gave his cordial approval to the compromise measures of 1850, which included the fugitive slave law. Mr. Pierce, upon his election to the Presidency, honored Mr. Buchanan with the mission to England.

In the year 1856, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,340,618 for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

Mr. Buchanan was far advanced in life. Only four years were wanting to fill up his three-score years and ten. His own friends, those with whom he had been allied in political principles and action for years, were seeking the destruction of the Government, that they might rear upon the ruins of our free institutions a nation whose corner-stone should

be human slavery. In this emergency, Mr. Buchanan was hopelessly bewildered. He could not, with his long-avowed principles, consistently oppose the State-rights party in their assumptions. As President of the United States, bound by his oath faithfully to administer the laws, he could not, without perjury of the grossest kind, unite with those endeavoring to overthrow the Republic. He therefore did nothing.

The opponents of Mr. Buchanan's administration nominated Abraham Lincoln as their standard-bearer in the next Presidential canvass. The pro-slavery party declared that if he were elected and the control of the Government were thus taken from their hands they would secede from the Union, taking with them as they retired the National Capitol at Washington and the lion's share of the territory of the United States.

As the storm increased in violence, the slaveholders, claiming the right to secede, and Mr. Buchanan avowing that Congress had no power to prevent it, one of the most pitiable exhibitions of governmental imbecility was exhibited the world has ever seen. He declared that Congress had no power to enforce its laws in any State which had withdrawn, or which was attempting to withdraw, from the Union. This was not the doctrine of Andrew Jackson, when, with his hand upon his sword-hilt, he exclaimed. "The Union must and shall be preserved!"

South Carolina seceded in December, 1860, nearly three months before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Mr. Buchanan looked on in listless despair. The rebel flag was raised in Charleston; Ft. Sumter was besieged; our forts, navy-yards and arsenals were seized; our depots of military stores were plundered; and our custom-houses and post-offices were appropriated by the rebels.

The energy of the rebels and the imbecility of our Executive were alike marvelous. The nation looked on in agony, waiting for the slow weeks to glide away and close the administration, so terrible in its weakness. At length the long-looked-for hour of deliverance came, when Abraham Lincoln was to receive the scepter.

The administration of President Buchanan was certainly the most calamitous our country has experienced. His best friends cannot recall it with pleasure. And still more deplorable it is for his fame, that in that dreadful conflict which rolled its billows of flame and blood over our whole land, no word came from his lips to indicate his wish that our country's banner should triumph over the flag of the Rebellion. He died at his Wheatland retreat, June 1, 1868.

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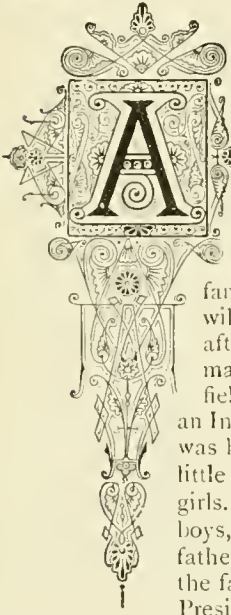


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A. Lincoln

ABRAHAM

LINCOLN.



**A**BRAHAM LINCOLN, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born in Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809. About the year 1780, a man by the name of Abraham Lincoln left Virginia with his family and moved into the then wilds of Kentucky. Only two years after this emigration, still a young man, while working one day in a field, was stealthily approached by an Indian and shot dead. His widow was left in extreme poverty with five little children, three boys and two girls. Thomas, the youngest of the boys, was four years of age at his father's death. This Thomas was the father of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States

whose name must henceforth forever be enrolled with the most prominent in the annals of our world.

Of course no record has been kept of the life of one so lowly as Thomas Lincoln. He was among the poorest of the poor. His home was a wretched log-cabin; his food the coarsest and the meanest. Education he had none; he could never either read or write. As soon as he was able to do anything for himself, he was compelled to leave the cabin of his starving mother, and push out into the world, a friendless, wandering boy, seeking work. He hired himself out, and thus spent the whole of his youth as a laborer in the fields of others.

When twenty-eight years of age he built a log-cabin of his own, and married Nancy Hanks, the daughter of another family of poor Kentucky emigrants, who had also come from Virginia. Their second child was Abraham Lincoln, the subject of this sketch. The mother of Abraham was a noble woman, gentle, loving, pensive, created to adorn a palace, doomed to toil and pine, and die in a hovel. "All that I am, or hope to be," exclaims the grateful son "I owe to my angel-mother."

When he was eight years of age, his father sold his

cabin and small farm, and moved to Indiana. Where two years later his mother died.

Abraham soon became the scribe of the uneducated community around him. He could not have had a better school than this to teach him to put thoughts into words. He also became an eager reader. The books he could obtain were few; but these he read and re-read until they were almost committed to memory.

As the years rolled on, the lot of this lowly family was the usual lot of humanity. There were joys and griefs, weddings and funerals. Abraham's sister Sarah, to whom he was tenderly attached, was married when a child of but fourteen years of age, and soon died. The family was gradually scattered. Mr. Thomas Lincoln sold out his squatter's claim in 1830 and emigrated to Macon Co., Ill.

Abraham Lincoln was then twenty-one years of age. With vigorous hands he aided his father in rearing another log-cabin. Abraham worked diligently at this until he saw the family comfortably settled, and their small lot of enclosed prairie planted with corn, when he announced to his father his intention to leave home, and to go out into the world and seek his fortune. Little did he or his friends imagine how brilliant that fortune was to be. He saw the value of education and was intensely earnest to improve his mind to the utmost of his power. He saw the ruin which ardent spirits were causing, and became strictly temperate; refusing to allow a drop of intoxicating liquor to pass his lips. And he had read in God's word, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;" and a profane expression he was never heard to utter. Religion he revered. His morals were pure, and he was uncontaminated by a single vice.

Young Abraham worked for a time as a hired laborer among the farmers. Then he went to Springfield where he was employed in building a large flat-boat. In this he took a herd of swine, floated them down the Sangamon to the Illinois, and thence by the Mississippi to New Orleans. Whatever Abraham Lincoln undertook, he performed so faithfully as to give great satisfaction to his employers. In this adven

ture his employers were so well pleased, that upon his return they placed a store and mill under his care.

In 1832, at the outbreak of the Black Hawk war, he enlisted and was chosen captain of a company. He returned to Sangamon County, and although only 23 years of age, was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated. He soon after received from Andrew Jackson the appointment of Postmaster of New Salem. His only post-office was his hat. All the letters he received he carried there ready to deliver to those he chanced to meet. He studied surveying, and soon made this his business. In 1834 he again became a candidate for the Legislature, and was elected. Mr. Stuart, of Springfield, advised him to study law. He walked from New Salem to Springfield, borrowed of Mr. Stuart a load of books, carried them back and began his legal studies. When the Legislature assembled he trudged on foot with his pack on his back one hundred miles to Vandalia, then the capital. In 1836 he was re-elected to the Legislature. Here it was he first met Stephen A. Douglas. In 1839 he removed to Springfield and began the practice of law. His success with the jury was so great that he was soon engaged in almost every noted case in the circuit.

In 1854 the great discussion began between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglas, on the slavery question. In the organization of the Republican party in Illinois, in 1856, he took an active part, and at once became one of the leaders in that party. Mr. Lincoln's speeches in opposition to Senator Douglas in the contest in 1858 for a seat in the Senate, form a most notable part of his history. The issue was on the slavery question, and he took the broad ground of the Declaration of Independence, that all men are created equal. Mr. Lincoln was defeated in this contest, but won a far higher prize.

The great Republican Convention met at Chicago on the 16th of June, 1860. The delegates and strangers who crowded the city amounted to twenty-five thousand. An immense building called "The Wigwam," was reared to accommodate the Convention. There were eleven candidates for whom votes were thrown. William H. Seward, a man whose fame as a statesman had long filled the land, was the most prominent. It was generally supposed he would be the nominee. Abraham Lincoln, however, received the nomination on the third ballot. Little did he then dream of the weary years of toil and care, and the bloody death, to which that nomination doomed him: and as little did he dream that he was to render services to his country, which would fix upon him the eyes of the whole civilized world, and which would give him a place in the affections of his countrymen, second only, if second, to that of Washington.

Election day came and Mr. Lincoln received 180 electoral votes out of 203 cast, and was, therefore, constitutionally elected President of the United States. The tirade of abuse that was poured upon this good

and merciful man, especially by the slaveholders, was greater than upon any other man ever elected to this high position. In February, 1861, Mr. Lincoln started for Washington, stopping in all the large cities on his way making speeches. The whole journey was fraught with much danger. Many of the Southern States had already seceded, and several attempts at assassination were afterwards brought to light. A gang in Baltimore had arranged, upon his arrival to "get up a row," and in the confusion to make sure of his death with revolvers and hand-grenades. A detective unravelled the plot. A secret and special train was provided to take him from Harrisburg, through Baltimore, at an unexpected hour of the night. The train started at half-past ten; and to prevent any possible communication on the part of the Secessionists with their Confederate gang in Baltimore, as soon as the train had started the telegraph-wires were cut. Mr. Lincoln reached Washington in safety and was inaugurated, although great anxiety was felt by all loyal people.

In the selection of his cabinet Mr. Lincoln gave to Mr. Seward the Department of State, and to other prominent opponents before the convention he gave important positions.

During no other administration have the duties devolving upon the President been so manifold, and the responsibilities so great, as those which fell to the lot of President Lincoln. Knowing this, and feeling his own weakness and inability to meet, and in his own strength to cope with, the difficulties, he learned early to seek Divine wisdom and guidance in determining his plans, and Divine comfort in all his trials, both personal and national. Contrary to his own estimate of himself, Mr. Lincoln was one of the most courageous of men. He went directly into the rebel capital just as the retreating foe was leaving, with no guard but a few sailors. From the time he had left Springfield, in 1861, however, plans had been made for his assassination, and he at last fell a victim to one of them. April 14, 1865, he, with Gen. Grant, was urgently invited to attend Ford's Theater. It was announced that they would be present. Gen. Grant, however, left the city. President Lincoln, feeling with his characteristic kindness of heart, that it would be a disappointment if he should fail them, very reluctantly consented to go. While listening to the play an actor by the name of John Wilkes Booth entered the box where the President and family were seated, and fired a bullet into his brains. He died the next morning at seven o'clock.

Never before, in the history of the world was a nation plunged into such deep grief by the death of its ruler. Strong men met in the streets and wept in speechless anguish. It is not too much to say that a nation was in tears. His was a life which will fitly become a model. His name as the savior of his country will live with that of Washington's, its father; his countrymen being unable to decide which is the greater.

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*Andrew Johnson*





**A**NDREW JOHNSON, seventeenth President of the United States. The early life of Andrew Johnson contains but the record of poverty, destitution and friendlessness. He was born December 29, 1808, in Raleigh, N. C. His parents, belonging to the class of the "poor whites" of the South, were in such circumstances, that they could not confer even the slightest advantages of education upon their child. When Andrew was five years of age, his father accidentally

lost his life while heroically endeavoring to save a friend from drowning. Until ten years of age, Andrew was a ragged boy about the streets, supported by the labor of his mother, who obtained her living with her own hands.

He then, having never attended a school one day, and being unable either to read or write, was apprenticed to a tailor in his native town. A gentleman was in the habit of going to the tailor's shop occasionally, and reading to the boys at work there. He often read from the speeches of distinguished British statesmen. Andrew, who was endowed with a mind of more than ordinary native ability, became much interested in these speeches; his ambition was roused, and he was inspired with a strong desire to learn to read.

He accordingly applied himself to the alphabet, and with the assistance of some of his fellow-workmen, learned his letters. He then called upon the gentleman to borrow the book of speeches. The owner,

pleased with his zeal, not only gave him the book but assisted him in learning to combine the letters into words. Under such difficulties he pressed onward laboriously, spending usually ten or twelve hours at work in the shop, and then robbing himself of rest and recreation to devote such time as he could to reading.

He went to Tennessee in 1826, and located at Greenville, where he married a young lady who possessed some education. Under her instructions he learned to write and cipher. He became prominent in the village debating society, and a favorite with the students of Greenville College. In 1828, he organized a working man's party, which elected him alderman, and in 1830 elected him mayor, which position he held three years.

He now began to take a lively interest in political affairs; identifying himself with the working-classes, to which he belonged. In 1835, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Tennessee. He was then just twenty-seven years of age. He became a very active member of the legislature gave his adhesion to the Democratic party, and in 1840 "stumped the State," advocating Martin Van Buren's claims to the Presidency, in opposition to those of Gen. Harrison. In this campaign he acquired much readiness as a speaker, and extended and increased his reputation.

In 1841, he was elected State Senator; in 1843, he was elected a member of Congress, and by successive elections, held that important post for ten years. In 1853, he was elected Governor of Tennessee, and was re-elected in 1855. In all these responsible positions, he discharged his duties with distinguished abi-

ity, and proved himself the warm friend of the working classes. In 1857, Mr. Johnson was elected United States Senator.

Years before, in 1845, he had warmly advocated the annexation of Texas, stating however, as his reason, that he thought this annexation would probably prove "to be the gateway out of which the sable sons of Africa are to pass from bondage to freedom, and become merged in a population congenial to themselves." In 1850, he also supported the compromise measures, the two essential features of which were, that the white people of the Territories should be permitted to decide for themselves whether they would enslave the colored people or not, and that the free States of the North should return to the South persons who attempted to escape from slavery.

Mr. Johnson was never ashamed of his lowly origin: on the contrary, he often took pride in avowing that he owed his distinction to his own exertions. "Sir," said he on the floor of the Senate, "I do not forget that I am a mechanic; neither do I forget that Adam was a tailor and sewed fig-leaves, and that our Savior was the son of a carpenter."

In the Charleston-Baltimore convention of 1860, he was the choice of the Tennessee Democrats for the Presidency. In 1861, when the purpose of the Southern Democracy became apparent, he took a decided stand in favor of the Union, and held that "slavery must be held subordinate to the Union at whatever cost." He returned to Tennessee, and repeatedly imperiled his own life to protect the Unionists of Tennessee. Tennessee having seceded from the Union, President Lincoln, on March 4th, 1862, appointed him Military Governor of the State, and he established the most stringent military rule. His numerous proclamations attracted wide attention. In 1864, he was elected Vice-President of the United States, and upon the death of Mr. Lincoln, April 15, 1865, became President. In a speech two days later he said, "The American people must be taught, if they do not already feel, that treason is a crime and must be punished; that the Government will not always bear with its enemies; that it is strong not only to protect, but to punish. \* \* The people must understand that it (treason) is the blackest of crimes, and will surely be punished." Yet his whole administration, the history of which is so well known, was in utter inconsistency with, and the most violent

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

In his loose policy of reconstruction and general amnesty, he was opposed by Congress; and he characterized Congress as a new rebellion, and lawlessly defied it, in everything possible, to the utmost. In the beginning of 1868, on account of "high crimes and misdemeanors," the principal of which was the removal of Secretary Stanton, in violation of the Tenure of Office Act, articles of impeachment were preferred against him, and the trial began March 23.

It was very tedious, continuing for nearly three months. A test article of the impeachment was at length submitted to the court for its action. It was certain that as the court voted upon that article so would it vote upon all. Thirty-four voices pronounced the President guilty. As a two-thirds vote was necessary to his condemnation, he was pronounced acquitted, notwithstanding the great majority against him. The change of one vote from the *not guilty* side would have sustained the impeachment.

The President, for the remainder of his term, was but little regarded. He continued, though impotently, his conflict with Congress. His own party did not think it expedient to renominate him for the Presidency. The Nation rallied, with enthusiasm unparalleled since the days of Washington, around the name of Gen. Grant. Andrew Johnson was forgotten. The bullet of the assassin introduced him to the President's chair. Notwithstanding this, never was there presented to a man a better opportunity to immortalize his name, and to win the gratitude of a nation. He failed utterly. He retired to his home in Greenville, Tenn., taking no very active part in politics until 1875. On Jan. 26, after an exciting struggle, he was chosen by the Legislature of Tennessee, United States Senator in the forty-fourth Congress, and took his seat in that body, at the special session convened by President Grant, on the 5th of March. On the 27th of July, 1875, the ex-President made a visit to his daughter's home, near Carter Station, Tenn. When he started on his journey, he was apparently in his usual vigorous health, but on reaching the residence of his child the following day, was stricken with paralysis, rendering him unconscious. He rallied occasionally, but finally passed away at 2 A. M., July 31, aged sixty-seven years. His funeral was attended at Greenville, on the 3d of August, with every demonstration of respect.

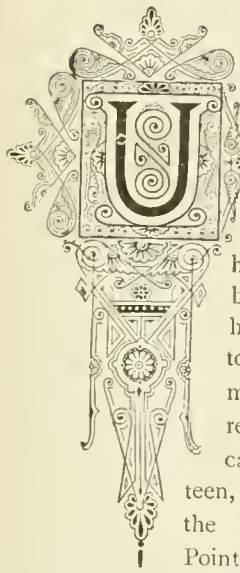




*U. S. Grant*



## ULYSSES S. GRANT.



ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a

solid, sensible young man of fair abilities, and of sturdy, honest character. He took respectable rank as a scholar. In June, 1843, he graduated, about the middle in his class, and was sent as lieutenant of infantry to one of the distant military posts in the Missouri Territory. Two years he past in these dreary solitudes, watching the vagabond and exasperating Indians.

The war with Mexico came. Lieut. Grant was sent with his regiment to Corpus Christi. His first battle was at Palo Alto. There was no chance here for the exhibition of either skill or heroism, nor at Resaca de la Palma, his second battle. At the battle of Monterey, his third engagement, it is said that he performed a signal service of daring and skillful horsemanship. His brigade had exhausted its ammunition. A messenger must be sent for more, along a route exposed to the bullets of the foe. Lieut. Grant, adopting an expedient learned of the Indians, grasped the mane of his horse, and hanging upon one side of the animal, ran the gauntlet in entire safety.

From Monterey he was sent, with the fourth infantry, to aid Gen. Scott, at the siege of Vera Cruz. In preparation for the march to the city of Mexico, he was appointed quartermaster of his regiment. At the battle of Molino del Rey, he was promoted to a first lieutenancy, and was brevetted captain at Chapultepec.

At the close of the Mexican War, Capt. Grant returned with his regiment to New York, and was again sent to one of the military posts on the frontier. The discovery of gold in California causing an immense tide of emigration to flow to the Pacific shores, Capt. Grant was sent with a battalion to Fort Dallas, in Oregon, for the protection of the interests of the immigrants. Life was wearisome in those wilds. Capt. Grant resigned his commission and returned to the States; and having married, entered upon the cultivation of a small farm near St. Louis, Mo. He had but little skill as a farmer. Finding his toil not remunerative, he turned to mercantile life, entering into the leather business, with a younger brother, at Galena, Ill. This was in the year 1860. As the tidings of the rebels firing on Fort Sumpter reached the ears of Capt. Grant in his counting-room, he said,—“Uncle Sam has educated me for the army: though I have served him through one war, I do not feel that I have yet repaid the debt. I am still ready to discharge my obligations. I shall therefore buckle on my sword and see Uncle Sam through this war too.”

He went into the streets, raised a company of volunteers, and led them as their captain to Springfield, the capital of the State, where their services were offered to Gov. Yates. The Governor, impressed by the zeal and straightforward executive ability of Capt. Grant, gave him a desk in his office, to assist in the volunteer organization that was being formed in the State in behalf of the Government. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of

June, 1861, Capt. Grant received a commission as Colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. His merits as a West Point graduate, who had served for 15 years in the regular army, were such that he was soon promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General and was placed in command at Cairo. The rebels raised their banner at Paducah, near the mouth of the Tennessee River. Scarcely had its folds appeared in the breeze ere Gen. Grant was there. The rebels fled. Their banner fell, and the star and stripes were unfurled in its stead.

He entered the service with great determination and immediately began active duty. This was the beginning, and until the surrender of Lee at Richmond he was ever pushing the enemy with great vigor and effectiveness. At Belmont, a few days later, he surprised and routed the rebels, then at Fort Henry won another victory. Then came the brilliant fight at Fort Donelson. The nation was electrified by the victory, and the brave leader of the boys in blue was immediately made a Major-General, and the military district of Tennessee was assigned to him.

Like all great captains, Gen. Grant knew well how to secure the results of victory. He immediately pushed on to the enemies' lines. Then came the terrible battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg, where Gen. Pemberton made an unconditional surrender of the city with over thirty thousand men and one-hundred and seventy-two cannon. The fall of Vicksburg was by far the most severe blow which the rebels had thus far encountered, and opened up the Mississippi from Cairo to the Gulf.

Gen. Grant was next ordered to co-operate with Gen. Banks in a movement upon Texas, and proceeded to New Orleans, where he was thrown from his horse, and received severe injuries, from which he was laid up for months. He then rushed to the aid of Gens. Rosecrans and Thomas at Chattanooga, and by a wonderful series of strategic and technical measures put the Union Army in fighting condition. Then followed the bloody battles at Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, in which the rebels were routed with great loss. This won for him unbounded praise in the North. On the 4th of February, 1864, Congress revived the grade of lieutenant-general, and the rank was conferred on Gen. Grant. He repaired to Washington to receive his credentials and enter upon the duties of his new office

Gen. Grant decided as soon as he took charge of the army to concentrate the widely-dispersed National troops for an attack upon Richmond, the nominal capital of the Rebellion, and endeavor there to destroy the rebel armies which would be promptly assembled from all quarters for its defence. The whole continent seemed to tremble under the tramp of these majestic armies, rushing to the decisive battle field. Steamers were crowded with troops. Railway trains were burdened with closely packed thousands. His plans were comprehensive and involved a series of campaigns, which were executed with remarkable energy and ability, and were consummated at the surrender of Lee, April 9, 1865.

The war was ended. The Union was saved. The almost unanimous voice of the Nation declared Gen. Grant to be the most prominent instrument in its salvation. The eminent services he had thus rendered the country brought him conspicuously forward as the Republican candidate for the Presidential chair.

At the Republican Convention held at Chicago, May 21, 1868, he was unanimously nominated for the Presidency, and at the autumn election received a majority of the popular vote, and 214 out of 294 electoral votes.

The National Convention of the Republican party which met at Philadelphia on the 5th of June, 1872, placed Gen. Grant in nomination for a second term by a unanimous vote. The selection was emphatically indorsed by the people five months later, 292 electoral votes being cast for him.

Soon after the close of his second term, Gen. Grant started upon his famous trip around the world. He visited almost every country of the civilized world, and was everywhere received with such ovations and demonstrations of respect and honor, private as well as public and official, as were never before bestowed upon any citizen of the United States.

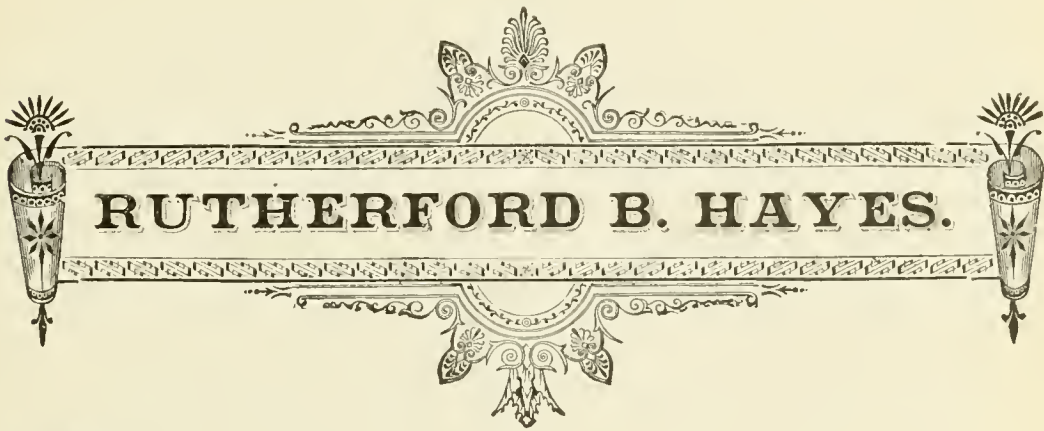
He was the most prominent candidate before the Republican National Convention in 1880 for a re-nomination for President. He went to New York and embarked in the brokerage business under the firm name of Grant & Ward. The latter proved a villain, wrecked Grant's fortune, and for larceny was sent to the penitentiary. The General was attacked with cancer in the throat, but suffered in his stoic-like manner, never complaining. He was re-instated as General of the Army and retired by Congress. The cancer soon finished its deadly work, and July 23, 1885, the nation went in mourning over the death of the illustrious General.

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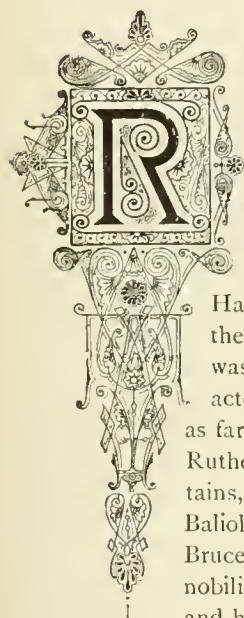


Sincerely  
R. B. Hayes





## RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

born. He was married, in September, 1813, to Sophia Birchard, of Wilmington, Vt., whose ancestors emigrated thither from Connecticut, they having been among the wealthiest and best families of Norwich. Her ancestry on the male side are traced back to 1635, to John Birchard, one of the principal founders of Norwich. Both of her grandfathers were soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

The father of President Hayes was an industrious, frugal and opened-hearted man. He was of a mechanical turn, and could mend a plow, knit a stocking, or do almost anything else that he choose to undertake. He was a member of the Church, active in all the benevolent enterprises of the town, and conducted his business on Christian principles. After the close of the war of 1812, for reasons inexplicable to his neighbors, he resolved to emigrate to Ohio.

The journey from Vermont to Ohio in that day when there were no canals, steamers, nor railways, was a very serious affair. A tour of inspection was first made, occupying four months. Mr. Hayes determined to move to Delaware, where the family arrived in 1817. He died July 22, 1822, a victim of malarial fever, less than three months before the birth of the son, of whom we now write. Mrs. Hayes, in her sore bereavement, found the support she so much needed in her brother Sardis, who had been a member of the household from the day of its departure from Vermont, and in an orphan girl whom she had adopted some time before as an act of charity.

Mrs. Hayes at this period was very weak, and the

subject of this sketch was so feeble at birth that he was not expected to live beyond a month or two at most. As the months went by he grew weaker and weaker, so that the neighbors were in the habit of inquiring from time to time "if Mrs. Hayes' baby died last night." On one occasion a neighbor, who was on familiar terms with the family, after alluding to the boy's big head, and the mother's assiduous care of him, said in a bantering way, "That's right! Stick to him. You have got him along so far, and I shouldn't wonder if he would really come to something yet."

"You need not laugh," said Mrs. Hayes. "You wait and see. You can't tell but I shall make him President of the United States yet." The boy lived, in spite of the universal predictions of his speedy death; and when, in 1825, his older brother was drowned, he became, if possible, still dearer to his mother.

The boy was seven years old before he went to school. His education, however, was not neglected. He probably learned as much from his mother and sister as he would have done at school. His sports were almost wholly within doors, his playmates being his sister and her associates. These circumstances tended, no doubt, to foster that gentleness of disposition, and that delicate consideration for the feelings of others, which are marked traits of his character.

His uncle Sardis Birchard took the deepest interest in his education; and as the boy's health had improved, and he was making good progress in his studies, he proposed to send him to college. His preparation commenced with a tutor at home; but he was afterwards sent for one year to a professor in the Wesleyan University, in Middletown, Conn. He entered Kenyon College in 1838, at the age of sixteen, and was graduated at the head of his class in 1842.

Immediately after his graduation he began the study of law in the office of Thomas Sparrow, Esq., in Columbus. Finding his opportunities for study in Columbus somewhat limited, he determined to enter the Law School at Cambridge, Mass., where he remained two years.

In 1845, after graduating at the Law School, he was admitted to the bar at Marietta, Ohio, and shortly afterward went into practice as an attorney-at-law with Ralph P. Buckland, of Fremont. Here he remained three years, acquiring but a limited practice, and apparently unambitious of distinction in his profession.

In 1849 he moved to Cincinnati, where his ambition found a new stimulus. For several years, however, his progress was slow. Two events, occurring at this period, had a powerful influence upon his subsequent life. One of these was his marriage with Miss Lucy Ware Webb, daughter of Dr. James Webb, of Chillicothe; the other was his introduction to the Cincinnati Literary Club, a body embracing among its members such men as Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase,

Gen. John Pope, Gov. Edward F. Noyes, and many others hardly less distinguished in after life. The marriage was a fortunate one in every respect, as everybody knows. Not one of all the wives of our Presidents was more universally admired, revered and beloved than was Mrs. Hayes, and no one did more than she to reflect honor upon American womanhood. The Literary Club brought Mr. Hayes into constant association with young men of high character and noble aims, and lured him to display the qualities so long hidden by his bashfulness and modesty.

In 1856 he was nominated to the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; but he declined to accept the nomination. Two years later, the office of city solicitor becoming vacant, the City Council elected him for the unexpired term.

In 1861, when the Rebellion broke out, he was at the zenith of his professional life. His rank at the bar was among the first. But the news of the attack on Fort Sumpter found him eager to take up arms for the defense of his country.

His military record was bright and illustrious. In October, 1861, he was made Lieutenant-Colonel, and in August, 1862, promoted Colonel of the 79th Ohio regiment, but he refused to leave his old comrades and go among strangers. Subsequently, however, he was made Colonel of his old regiment. At the battle of South Mountain he received a wound, and while faint and bleeding displayed courage and fortitude that won admiration from all.

Col. Hayes was detached from his regiment, after his recovery, to act as Brigadier-General, and placed in command of the celebrated Kanawha division, and for gallant and meritorious services in the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, he was promoted Brigadier-General. He was also brevetted Major-General, "for gallant and distinguished services during the campaigns of 1864, in West Virginia." In the course of his arduous services, four horses were shot from under him, and he was wounded four times.

In 1864, Gen. Hayes was elected to Congress, from the Second Ohio District, which had long been Democratic. He was not present during the campaign, and after his election was importuned to resign his commission in the army; but he finally declared, "I shall never come to Washington until I can come by the way of Richmond." He was re-elected in 1866.

In 1867, Gen Hayes was elected Governor of Ohio, over Hon. Allen G. Thurman, a popular Democrat. In 1869 was re-elected over George H. Pendleton. He was elected Governor for the third term in 1875.

In 1876 he was the standard bearer of the Republican Party in the Presidential contest, and after a hard long contest was chosen President, and was inaugurated Monday, March 5, 1875. He served his full term, not, however, with satisfaction to his party, but his administration was an average one.

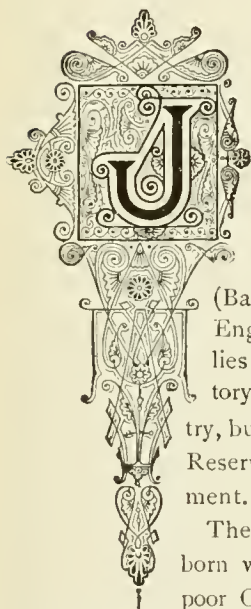
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*J. A. Garfield*



# JAMES A. GARFIELD.



JAMES A. GARFIELD, twentieth President of the United States, was born Nov. 19, 1831, in the woods of Orange, Cuyahoga Co., O. His parents were Abram and Eliza (Ballou) Garfield, both of New England ancestry and from families well known in the early history of that section of our country, but had moved to the Western Reserve, in Ohio, early in its settlement.

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It

was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

The early educational advantages young Garfield enjoyed were very limited, yet he made the most of them. He labored at farm work for others, did carpenter work, chopped wood, or did anything that would bring in a few dollars to aid his widowed mother in her struggles to keep the little family to-

gether. Nor was Gen. Garfield ever ashamed of his origin, and he never forgot the friends of his struggling childhood, youth and manhood, neither did they ever forget him. When in the highest seats of honor the humblest friend of his boyhood was as kindly greeted as ever. The poorest laborer was sure of the sympathy of one who had known all the bitterness of want and the sweetness of bread earned by the sweat of the brow. He was ever the simple, plain, modest gentleman.

The highest ambition of young Garfield until he was about sixteen years old was to be a captain of a vessel on Lake Erie. He was anxious to go aboard a vessel, which his mother strongly opposed. She finally consented to his going to Cleveland, with the understanding, however, that he should try to obtain some other kind of employment. He walked all the way to Cleveland. This was his first visit to the city. After making many applications for work, and trying to get aboard a lake vessel, and not meeting with success, he engaged as a driver for his cousin, Amos Letcher, on the Ohio & Pennsylvania Canal. He remained at this work but a short time when he went home, and attended the seminary at Chester for about three years, when he entered Hiram and the Eclectic Institute, teaching a few terms of school in the meantime, and doing other work. This school was started by the Disciples of Christ in 1850, of which church he was then a member. He became janitor and bell-ringer in order to help pay his way. He then became both teacher and pupil. He soon "exhausted Hiram" and needed more; hence, in the fall of 1854, he entered Williams College, from which he graduated in 1856, taking one of the highest honors of his class. He afterwards returned to Hiram College as its President. As above stated, he early united with the Christian or Disciples Church at Hiram, and was ever after a devoted, zealous member, often preaching in its pulpit and places where he happened to be. Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College, says of him in reference to his religion:

“President Garfield was more than a man of strong moral and religious convictions. His whole history, from boyhood to the last, shows that duty to man and to God, and devotion to Christ and life and faith and spiritual commission were controlling springs of his being, and to a more than usual degree. In my judgment there is no more interesting feature of his character than his loyal allegiance to the body of Christians in which he was trained, and the fervent sympathy which he ever showed in their Christian communion. Not many of the few ‘wise and mighty and noble who are called’ show a similar loyalty to the less stately and cultured Christian communions in which they have been reared. Too often it is true that as they step upward in social and political significance they step upward from one degree to another in some of the many types of fashionable Christianity. President Garfield adhered to the church of his mother, the church in which he was trained, and in which he served as a pillar and an evangelist, and yet with the largest and most unsectarian charity for all ‘who love our Lord in sincerity.’”

Mr. Garfield was united in marriage with Miss Lucretia Rudolph, Nov. 11, 1858, who proved herself worthy as the wife of one whom all the world loved and mourned. To them were born seven children, five of whom are still living, four boys and one girl.

Mr. Garfield made his first political speeches in 1856, in Hiram and the neighboring villages, and three years later he began to speak at county mass-meetings, and became the favorite speaker wherever he was. During this year he was elected to the Ohio Senate. He also began to study law at Cleveland, and in 1861 was admitted to the bar. The great Rebellion broke out in the early part of this year, and Mr. Garfield at once resolved to fight as he had talked, and enlisted to defend the old flag. He received his commission as Lieut.-Colonel of the Forty-second Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Aug. 14, 1861. He was immediately put into active service, and before he had ever seen a gun fired in action, was placed in command of four regiments of infantry and eight companies of cavalry, charged with the work of driving out of his native State the officer (Humphrey Marshall) reputed to be the ablest of those, not educated to war whom Kentucky had given to the Rebellion. This work was bravely and speedily accomplished, although against great odds. President Lincoln, on his success commissioned him Brigadier-General, Jan. 10, 1862; and as “he had been the youngest man in the Ohio Senate two years before, so now he was the youngest General in the army.” He was with Gen. Buell’s army at Shiloh, in its operations around Corinth and its march through Alabama. He was then detailed as a member of the General Court-Martial for the trial of Gen. Fitz-John Porter. He was then ordered to report to Gen. Rosecrans, and was assigned to the “Chief of Staff.”

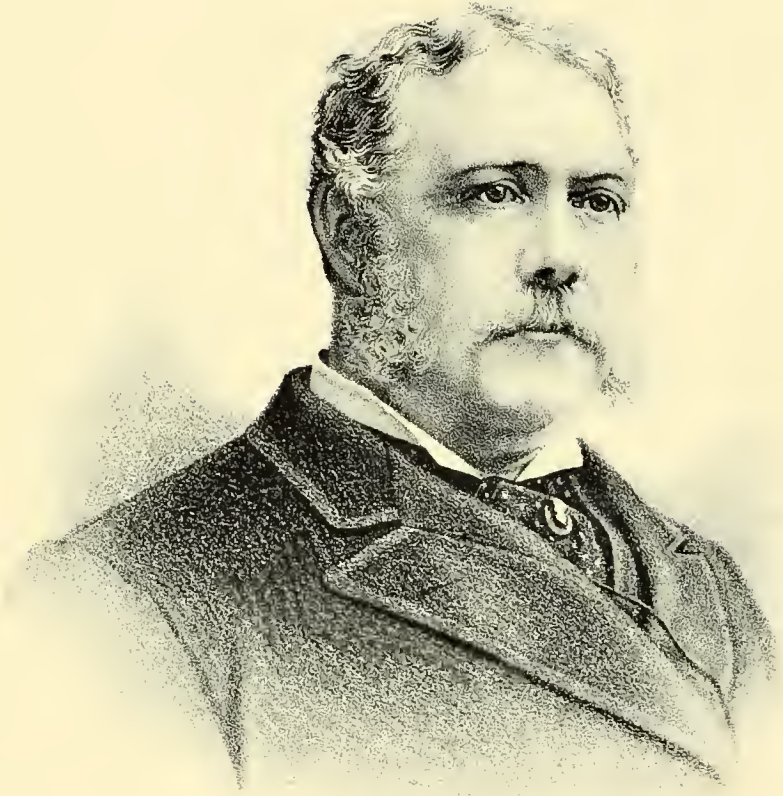
The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

his brilliant services at Chickamauga, where he won the stars of the Major-General.

Without an effort on his part Gen. Garfield was elected to Congress in the fall of 1862 from the Nineteenth District of Ohio. This section of Ohio had been represented in Congress for sixty years mainly by two men—Elisha Whittlesey and Joshua R. Giddings. It was not without a struggle that he resigned his place in the army. At the time he entered Congress he was the youngest member in that body. There he remained by successive re-elections until he was elected President in 1880. Of his labors in Congress Senator Hoar says: “Since the year 1864 you cannot think of a question which has been debated in Congress, or discussed before a tribunal of the American people, in regard to which you will not find, if you wish instruction, the argument on one side stated, in almost every instance better than by anybody else, in some speech made in the House of Representatives or on the hustings by Mr. Garfield.”

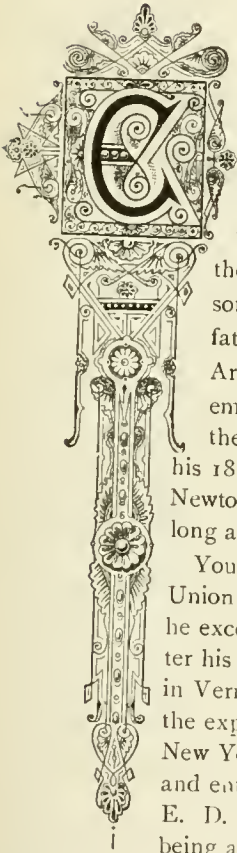
Upon Jan. 14, 1880, Gen. Garfield was elected to the U. S. Senate, and on the eighth of June, of the same year, was nominated as the candidate of his party for President at the great Chicago Convention. He was elected in the following November, and on March 4, 1881, was inaugurated. Probably no administration ever opened its existence under brighter auspices than that of President Garfield, and every day it grew in favor with the people, and by the first of July he had completed all the initiatory and preliminary work of his administration and was preparing to leave the city to meet his friends at Williams College. While on his way and at the depot, in company with Secretary Blaine, a man stepped behind him, drew a revolver, and fired directly at his back. The President tottered and fell, and as he did so the assassin fired a second shot, the bullet cutting the left coat sleeve of his victim, but inflicting no further injury. It has been very truthfully said that this was “the shot that was heard round the world.” Never before in the history of the Nation had anything occurred which so nearly froze the blood of the people for the moment, as this awful deed. He was smitten on the brightest, gladdest day of all his life, and was at the summit of his power and hope. For eighty days, all during the hot months of July and August, he lingered and suffered. He, however, remained master of himself till the last, and by his magnificent bearing was teaching the country and the world the noblest of human lessons—how to live grandly in the very clutch of death. Great in life, he was surpassingly great in death. He passed serenely away Sept. 19, 1883, at Elberon, N. J., on the very bank of the ocean, where he had been taken shortly previous. The world wept at his death, as it never had done on the death of any other man who had ever lived upon it. The murderer was duly tried, found guilty and executed, in one year after he committed the foul deed.





*C. A. H. H. H.*





**CHESTER A. ARTHUR**, twenty-first President of the United States, was born in Franklin County, Vermont, on the fifth of October, 1830, and is the oldest of a family of two sons and five daughters. His father was the Rev. Dr. William Arthur, a Baptist clergyman, who emigrated to this country from the county Antrim, Ireland, in his 18th year, and died in 1875, in Newtonville, near Albany, after a long and successful ministry.

Young Arthur was educated at Union College, Schenectady, where he excelled in all his studies. After his graduation he taught school in Vermont for two years, and at the expiration of that time came to New York, with \$500 in his pocket, and entered the office of ex-Judge E. D. Culver as student. After being admitted to the bar he formed

a partnership with his intimate friend and room-mate, Henry D. Gardiner, with the intention of practicing in the West, and for three months they roamed about in the Western States in search of an eligible site, but in the end returned to New York, where they hung out their shingle, and entered upon a successful career almost from the start. General Arthur soon afterward married the daughter of Lieutenant

Herndon, of the United States Navy, who was lost at sea. Congress voted a gold medal to his widow in recognition of the bravery he displayed on that occasion. Mrs. Arthur died shortly before Mr. Arthur's nomination to the Vice Presidency, leaving two children.

Gen. Arthur obtained considerable legal celebrity in his first great case, the famous Lemmon suit, brought to recover possession of eight slaves who had been declared free by Judge Paine, of the Superior Court of New York City. It was in 1852 that Jonathan Lemmon, of Virginia, went to New York with his slaves, intending to ship them to Texas, when they were discovered and freed. The Judge decided that they could not be held by the owner under the Fugitive Slave Law. A howl of rage went up from the South, and the Virginia Legislature authorized the Attorney General of that State to assist in an appeal. Wm. M. Evarts and Chester A. Arthur were employed to represent the People, and they won their case, which then went to the Supreme Court of the United States. Charles O'Connor here espoused the cause of the slave-holders, but he too was beaten by Messrs Evarts and Arthur, and a long step was taken toward the emancipation of the black race.

Another great service was rendered by General Arthur in the same cause in 1856. Lizzie Jennings, a respectable colored woman, was put off a Fourth Avenue car with violence after she had paid her fare. General Arthur sued on her behalf, and secured a verdict of \$500 damages. The next day the company issued an order to admit colored persons to ride on their cars, and the other car companies quickly

followed their example. Before that the Sixth Avenue Company ran a few special cars for colored persons and the other lines refused to let them ride at all.

General Arthur was a delegate to the Convention at Saratoga that founded the Republican party. Previous to the war he was Judge-Advocate of the Second Brigade of the State of New York, and Governor Morgan, of that State, appointed him Engineer-in-Chief of his staff. In 1861, he was made Inspector General, and soon afterward became Quartermaster-General. In each of these offices he rendered great service to the Government during the war. At the end of Governor Morgan's term he resumed the practice of the law, forming a partnership with Mr. Ransom, and then Mr. Phelps, the District Attorney of New York, was added to the firm. The legal practice of this well-known firm was very large and lucrative, each of the gentlemen composing it were able lawyers, and possessed a splendid local reputation, if not indeed one of national extent.

He always took a leading part in State and city politics. He was appointed Collector of the Port of New York by President Grant, Nov. 21 1872, to succeed Thomas Murphy, and held the office until July, 20, 1878, when he was succeeded by Collector Merritt.

Mr. Arthur was nominated on the Presidential ticket, with Gen. James A. Garfield, at the famous National Republican Convention held at Chicago in June, 1880. This was perhaps the greatest political convention that ever assembled on the continent. It was composed of the leading politicians of the Republican party, all able men, and each stood firm and fought vigorously and with signal tenacity for their respective candidates that were before the convention for the nomination. Finally Gen. Garfield received the nomination for President and Gen. Arthur for Vice-President. The campaign which followed was one of the most animated known in the history of our country. Gen. Hancock, the standard-bearer of the Democratic party, was a popular man, and his party made a valiant fight for his election.

Finally the election came and the country's choice was Garfield and Arthur. They were inaugurated March 4, 1881, as President and Vice-President. A few months only had passed ere the newly chosen President was the victim of the assassin's bullet. Then came terrible weeks of suffering,—those moments of anxious suspense, when the hearts of all civilized na-

tions were throbbing in unison, longing for the recovery of the noble, the good President. The remarkable patience that he manifested during those hours and weeks, and even months, of the most terrible suffering man has often been called upon to endure, was seemingly more than human. It was certainly God-like. During all this period of deepest anxiety Mr. Arthur's every move was watched, and be it said to his credit that his every action displayed only an earnest desire that the suffering Garfield might recover, to serve the remainder of the term he had so auspiciously begun. Not a selfish feeling was manifested in deed or look of this man, even though the most honored position in the world was at any moment likely to fall to him.

At last God in his mercy relieved President Garfield from further suffering, and the world, as never before in its history over the death of any other man, wept at his bier. Then it became the duty of the Vice President to assume the responsibilities of the high office, and he took the oath in New York, Sept. 20, 1881. The position was an embarrassing one to him, made doubly so from the facts that all eyes were on him, anxious to know what he would do, what policy he would pursue, and who he would select as advisers. The duties of the office had been greatly neglected during the President's long illness, and many important measures were to be immediately decided by him; and still farther to embarrass him he did not fail to realize under what circumstances he became President, and knew the feelings of many on this point. Under these trying circumstances President Arthur took the reins of the Government in his own hands; and, as embarrassing as were the condition of affairs he happily surprised the nation, acting so wisely that but few criticised his administration. He served the nation well and faithfully, until the close of his administration, March 4, 1885, and was a popular candidate before his party for a second term. His name was ably presented before the convention at Chicago, and was received with great favor, and doubtless but for the personal popularity of one of the opposing candidates, he would have been selected as the standard-bearer of his party for another campaign. He retired to private life carrying with him the best wishes of the American people, whom he had served in a manner satisfactory to them and with credit to himself.

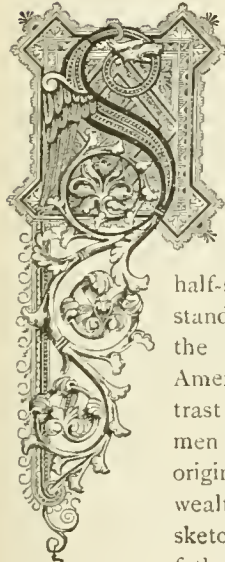
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Grover Cleveland



S. Grover Cleveland.



STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian minister,

with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born.

At the last mentioned place young Grover commenced going to school in the "good, old-fashioned way," and presumably distinguished himself after the manner of all village boys, in doing the things he ought not to do. Such is the distinguishing trait of all geniuses and independent thinkers. When he arrived at the age of 14 years, he had outgrown the capacity of the village school and expressed a most

emphatic desire to be sent to an academy. To this his father decidedly objected. Academies in those days cost money; besides, his father wanted him to become self-supporting by the quickest possible means, and this at that time in Fayetteville seemed to be a position in a country store, where his father and the large family on his hands had considerable influence. Grover was to be paid \$50 for his services the first year, and if he proved trustworthy he was to receive \$100 the second year. Here the lad commenced his career as salesman, and in two years he had earned so good a reputation for trustworthiness that his employers desired to retain him for an indefinite length of time. Otherwise he did not exhibit as yet any particular "flashes of genius" or eccentricities of talent. He was simply a good boy.

But instead of remaining with this firm in Fayetteville, he went with the family in their removal to Clinton, where he had an opportunity of attending a high school. Here he industriously pursued his studies until the family removed with him to a point on Black River known as the "Holland Patent," a village of 500 or 600 people, 15 miles north of Utica, N. Y. At this place his father died, after preaching but three Sundays. This event broke up the family, and Grover set out for New York City to accept, at a small salary, the position of "under-teacher" in an asylum for the blind. He taught faithfully for two years, and although he obtained a good reputation in this capacity, he concluded that teaching was not his

calling for life, and, reversing the traditional order, he left the city to seek his fortune, instead of going to a city. He first thought of Cleveland, Ohio, as there was some charm in that name for him; but before proceeding to that place he went to Buffalo to ask the advice of his uncle, Lewis F. Allan, a noted stock-breeder of that place. The latter did not speak enthusiastically. "What is it you want to do, my boy?" he asked. "Well, sir, I want to study law," was the reply. "Good gracious!" remarked the old gentleman; "do you, indeed? What ever put that into your head? How much money have you got?" "Well, sir, to tell the truth, I haven't got any."

After a long consultation, his uncle offered him a place temporarily as assistant herd-keeper, at \$50 a year, while he could "look around." One day soon afterward he boldly walked into the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers, of Buffalo, and told them what he wanted. A number of young men were already engaged in the office, but Grover's persistency won, and he was finally permitted to come as an office boy and have the use of the law library, for the nominal sum of \$3 or \$4 a week. Out of this he had to pay for his board and washing. The walk to and from his uncle's was a long and rugged one; and, although the first winter was a memorably severe one, his shoes were out of repair and his overcoat—he had none—yet he was nevertheless prompt and regular. On the first day of his service here, his senior employer threw down a copy of Blackstone before him with a bang that made the dust fly, saying "That's where they all begin." A titter ran around the little circle of clerks and students, as they thought that was enough to scare young Grover out of his plans; but in due time he mastered that cumbersome volume. Then, as ever afterward, however, Mr. Cleveland exhibited a talent for executiveness rather than for chasing principles through all their metaphysical possibilities. "Let us quit talking and go and do it," was practically his motto.

The first public office to which Mr. Cleveland was elected was that of Sheriff of Erie Co., N. Y., in which Buffalo is situated; and in such capacity it fell to his duty to inflict capital punishment upon two criminals. In 1881 he was elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo, on the Democratic ticket, with especial reference to the bringing about certain reforms

in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language in a veto message, we quote from one vetoing an iniquitous street-cleaning contract: "This is a time for plain speech, and my objection to your action shall be plainly stated. I regard it as the culmination of a most bare-faced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people and to worse than squander the people's money." The *New York Sun* afterward very highly commended Mr. Cleveland's administration as Mayor of Buffalo, and thereupon recommended him for Governor of the Empire State. To the latter office he was elected in 1882, and his administration of the affairs of State was generally satisfactory. The mistakes he made, if any, were made very public throughout the nation after he was nominated for President of the United States. For this high office he was nominated July 11, 1884, by the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, when other competitors were Thomas F. Bayard, Roswell P. Flower, Thomas A. Hendricks, Benjamin F. Butler, Allen G. Thurman, etc.; and he was elected by the people, by a majority of about a thousand, over the brilliant and long-tried Republican statesman, James G. Blaine. President Cleveland resigned his office as Governor of New York in January, 1885, in order to prepare for his duties as the Chief Executive of the United States, in which capacity his term commenced at noon on the 4th of March, 1885.

The silver question precipitated a controversy between those who were in favor of the continuance of silver coinage and those who were opposed, Mr. Cleveland answering for the latter, even before his inauguration.

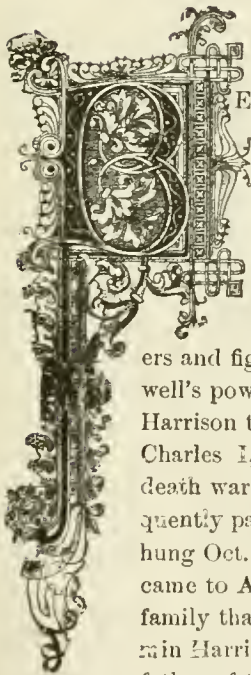
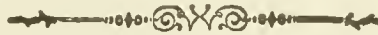
On June 2, 1886, President Cleveland married Frances, daughter of his deceased friend and partner, Oscar Folsom, of the Buffalo Bar. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one daughter, Ruth. In the campaign of 1888, President Cleveland was renominated by his party, but the Republican candidate, Gen. Benjamin Harrison, was victorious. In the nominations of 1892 these two candidates for the highest position in the gift of the people were again pitted against each other and President Cleveland was victorious by an overwhelming majority.

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*Genl Harrison*





**B**ENJAMIN HARRISON, the twenty-third President, is the descendant of one of the historical families of this country. The head of the family was a Major General Harrison, one of Oliver Cromwell's trusted followers and fighters. In the zenith of Cromwell's power it became the duty of this Harrison to participate in the trial of Charles I, and afterward to sign the death warrant of the king. He subsequently paid for this with his life, being hung Oct. 13, 1660. His descendants came to America, and the next of the family that appears in history is Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and

after whom he was named. Benjamin Harrison was a member of the Continental Congress during the years 1774-5-6, and was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was three times elected Governor of Virginia.

Gen. William Henry Harrison, the son of the

distinguished patriot of the Revolution, after a successful career as a soldier during the War of 1812, and with a clean record as Governor of the North-western Territory, was elected President of the United States in 1840. His career was cut short by death within one month after his inauguration.

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1793. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a country lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good education, and nothing more. He became engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Scott, Principal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison received the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at \$800. He regarded this legacy as a fortune, and decided to get married at once, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the practice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a place in the world. He

decided to go to Indianapolis, which was even at that time a town of promise. He met with slight encouragement at first, making scarcely anything the first year. He worked diligently, applying himself closely to his calling, built up an extensive practice and took a leading rank in the legal profession. He is the father of two children.

In 1860 Mr. Harrison was nominated for the position of Supreme Court Reporter, and then began his experience as a stump speaker. He canvassed the State thoroughly, and was elected by a handsome majority. In 1862 he raised the 17th Indiana Infantry, and was chosen its Colonel. His regiment was composed of the rawest of material, but Col. Harrison employed all his time at first mastering military tactics and drilling his men, when he therefore came to move toward the East with Sherman his regiment was one of the best drilled and organized in the army. At Resaca he especially distinguished himself, and for his bravery at Peachtree Creek he was made a Brigadier General. Gen. Hooker speaking of him in the most complimentary terms.

During the absence of Gen. Harrison in the field the Supreme Court declared the office of the Supreme Court Reporter vacant, and another person was elected to the position. From the time of leaving Indiana with his regiment until the fall of 1864 he had taken no leave of absence, but having been nominated that year for the same office, he got a thirty-day leave of absence, and during that time made a brilliant canvass of the State, and was elected for another term. He then started to rejoin Sherman, but on the way was stricken down with scarlet fever, and after a most trying siege made his way to the front in time to participate in the closing incidents of the war.

In 1868 Gen. Harrison declined re-election as reporter, and resumed the practice of law. In 1876 he was a candidate for Governor. Although defeated, the brilliant campaign he made won for him a National reputation, and he was much sought, especially in the East, to make speeches. In 1880, as usual, he took an active part in the campaign, and was elected to the United States Senate. Here he served six years, and was known as one of the ablest men, best lawyer and strongest debaters in

that body. With the expiration of his Senatorial term he returned to the practice of his profession, becoming the head of one of the strongest firms in the State.

The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon the vital questions of the day, chief among which was the tariff, awoke a deep interest in the campaign throughout the Nation. Shortly after the nomination delegations began to visit Mr. Harrison at Indianapolis, his home. This movement became popular, and from all sections of the country societies, clubs and delegations journeyed thither to pay their respects to the distinguished statesman. The popularity of these was greatly increased on account of the remarkable speeches made by Mr. Harrison. He spoke daily all through the summer and autumn to these visiting delegations, and so varied, masterly and eloquent were his speeches that they at once placed him in the foremost rank of American orators and statesmen.

On account of his eloquence as a speaker and his power as a debater, he was called upon at an uncommonly early age to take part in the discussion of the great questions that then began to agitate the country. He was an uncompromising anti-slavery man, and was matched against some of the most eminent Democratic speakers of his State. No man who felt the touch of his blade dared to be pitted with him again. With all his eloquence as an orator he never spoke for oratorical effect, but his words always went like bullets to the mark. He is purely American in his ideas and is a splendid type of the American statesman. Gifted with quick perception, a logical mind and a ready tongue, he is one of the most distinguished impromptu speakers in the Nation. Many of these speeches sparkled with the rarest of eloquence and contained arguments of greatest weight. Many of his terse statements have already become aphorisms. Original in thought precise in logic, terse in statement, yet without faultless in eloquence, he is recognized as the sound statesman and brilliant orator of the day.

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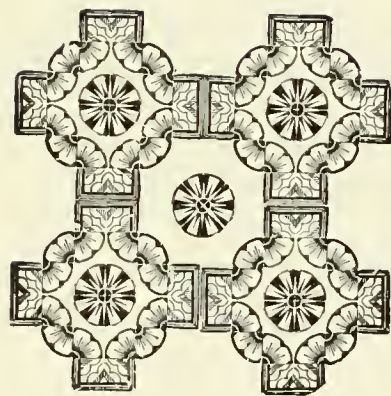





# Muskegon and Ottawa Counties,

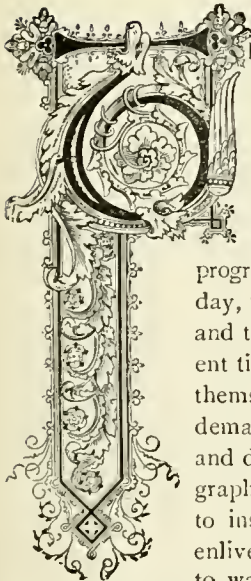

MICHIGAN.







# INTRODUCTORY.



HE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this county to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In biographical history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a

safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

To be forgotten has been the great dread of mankind from remotest ages. All will be forgotten soon enough, in spite of their best works and the most earnest efforts of their friends to preserve the memory of their lives. The means employed to prevent oblivion and to perpetuate their memory has been in proportion to the amount of intelligence they possessed. The pyramids of Egypt were built to perpetuate the names and deeds of their great rulers. The exhumations made by the archeologists of Egypt from buried Memphis indicate a desire of those people

to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It is also evident that the Mound-builders, in piling up their great mounds of earth, had but this idea—to leave something to show that they had lived. All these works, though many of them costly in the extreme, give but a faint idea of the lives and characters of those whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and scarcely anything of the masses of the people that then lived. The great pyramids and some of the obelisks remain objects only of curiosity; the mausoleums, monuments and statues are crumbling into dust.

It was left to modern ages to establish an intelligent, undecaying, immutable method of perpetuating a full history—immutable in that it is almost unlimited in extent and perpetual in its action; and this is through the art of printing.

To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

The scythe of Time cuts down all; nothing of the physical man is left. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, is perpetuated by a record of this kind.

To preserve the lineaments of our companions we engrave their portraits, for the same reason we collect the attainable facts of their history. Nor do we think it necessary, as we speak only truth of them, to wait until they are dead, or until those who know them are gone: to do this we are ashamed only to publish to the world the history of those whose lives are unworthy of public record.





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*Yours Truly*  
*Henry A. Holt*



# BIOGRAPHICAL.

**H**ON. HENRY H. HOLT. Conspicuous among the progressive and influential men of Michigan whom it is a privilege to know and a pleasure to honor, stands the name of this gentleman, who won an extended fame through his efficient and honorable service as Lieutenant-Governor of this State. His life of more than three-score years has been a busy and eventful one, filled with good works and public-spirited deeds, and now, as the shades of evening gather and he descends into the twilight of life's brief day, he can recall the past with pride and look forward to the future with hope. The events of his career, briefly narrated below, speak more eloquently than words of the energy, uprightness, keen discrimination and unwavering loyalty to the interests of his fellow-citizens which have characterized his every act.

A native of New York, the subject of this notice was born in Camden, Oneida County, March 27, 1831. His father, Henry Holt, was born in Chaplin, Conn., in 1803, and, removing to New York State about 1830, engaged in agricultural pursuits there until 1852, when, accompanied by his family, he came to Michigan and settled in Kent County. Upon a farm he purchased there he has ever since lived; and now in his old age he enjoys the fruits of his early labors, being the owner of one of the finest farms in the State.

The mother of our subject was Lorancy, daughter of Philip W. Potter, a farmer of Herkimer

County, N. Y., whose paternal ancestor of the seventh generation, Robert Potter, came from England in 1628 and settled in Salem, Mass., whence ten years later he removed to Rhode Island, becoming one of the first settlers of that State. A grandson of Robert, Fisher Potter, married Mary, daughter of Meroy Williams (who was a daughter of the famous Roger Williams, founder of the Rhode Island Colony) by her second husband, Samuel Windsor. Our subject, therefore, is a lineal descendant of this branch of the Williams and Potter families on his mother's side. Mrs. Holt died April 22, 1835, when twenty-seven years old.

In his childhood years Henry H. Holt attended the district school. In 1848 he continued his studies at Fairfield Academy, and subsequently spent one year at Christ's Church Hall, in Pomfret, Conn. During the year 1852 he accompanied his father to Michigan, and continued for three years the profession of a teacher, which he had commenced previously. In 1855 he entered upon his legal studies at a law school in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he remained for one year. Later he conducted his studies in the Union Law College, at Cleveland, Ohio, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and was admitted to practice at the Bar in July, 1857, Hon. David Tod, afterward Governor of the State, being at that time President of the institution.

Returning to Michigan, Mr. Holt was admitted

to practice at Grand Rapids by Hon. George Martin, who at that time was Judge of the Circuit Court, and subsequently Chief-Justice of the State Supreme Court. In May, 1858, Mr. Holt came to Muskegon, and in the fall of that year was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Ottawa County, which then included all the territory now embraced in Muskegon and Ottawa Counties. In 1859 Muskegon County was organized, and our subject was elected Prosecuting Attorney for the new county, and held that office four years. At the expiration of this term he was elected Circuit Court Commissioner, and was re-elected for a second term two years later. In 1866 the Republicans of this district elected him to represent the district in the Lower House of the State Legislature, to which office he was re-elected in 1868, when he became Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. In 1870 he was again elected, and served in the same capacity on that committee. Much of his time was devoted to the interests of the charitable institutions of the State, and the present prosperity of a number of them is due to his earnest efforts in securing appropriations.

In 1872 Mr. Holt was elected Lieutenant-Governor of the State on the Republican ticket, headed by Gov. Bagley, and two years later was re-elected to that office. In 1878 his district again sent him to the State Legislature, when he was once more appointed Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. In 1886, when again elected, he was made Chairman of the Committee on Railroads, and second on the Judiciary Committee. He was Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee during the building of the State Capitol at Lansing. In 1867 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention held at Lansing. Mr. Holt has served five terms in the State Legislature as the representative of his district, and two terms as Lieutenant-Governor, being a longer term of service than that of any resident, past or present, of the State of Michigan—a record of which he may well be proud.

In April, 1878, Mr. Holt was elected Mayor of Muskegon, and was re-elected in 1879, he being the second Republican Mayor of this city. He has also served the people in various other public of-

fices to which he has been elected from time to time. His experience in this respect is a remarkable one, in the fact that, of the numerous times that he has been nominated for office (being about twenty-five times altogether), he has never known defeat—a proud record in a city and district as often Democratic as Republican; a record that speaks louder than words of the appreciation of his services, and one that shows the esteem in which he is held by the people of the community. He has ever since taking up his residence in Muskegon maintained a law office, and has continued in the active practice of his profession.

In 1873 and 1874 Mr. Holt made an extended tour of Europe, and in 1875 and 1876 he again visited the Old World, journeying through Egypt and the Holy Land, and making stops at Constantinople and the old cities of the East, from which he returned with a fine collection of pictures, other works of art, and rare curiosities. The foregoing history of Mr. Holt's public career should be a sufficient guarantee for his personal character, social and business standing. "Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honor," is as true to-day as it was thirty centuries ago. In all business transactions his promise is unquestioned; once made, the fulfillment comes with the day.

During the winter of 1892 Mr. Holt was, with several other gentlemen, intrusted by leading business citizens with the delicate task of procuring an increased appropriation by Congress for the Muskegon Harbor, and an appropriation for other purposes, and it can be safely said, and without detracting from the others, that for the success of the mission much credit is due to Mr. Holt. His knowledge of legislation and governmental methods proved an important factor in the execution by himself and his associates of the important duties and interests with which they were clothed. A life-long Republican, imbued with the doctrines of his party, and unswerving in fealty thereto, he is yet sufficiently generous to see the patriot in a political adversary. Thoroughly American, he illustrates in his life and character many of the better traits of the American citizen.

Mr. Holt has been twice married. His first wife

was Mary Winter, of Lansing, Mich., who died in May, 1872. He was again married, on the 5th of February, 1878, this wife being Mrs. Catharine Hackley.



**H**ENRY JOHN BOLT, who is now living retired in Grand Haven, well deserves representation in this volume, for he is widely known among the citizens of Ottawa County and his life record will be received with interest by many of our readers. He was born in Holland in 1823, and his father, who was also a native of the same country, crossed the Atlantic to America and took up his residence in Zeeland, Ottawa County, where he spent the remainder of his life. By occupation he was a farmer.

Our subject acquired such educational advantages as the schools of his native land afforded. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent under the parental roof, and he early became familiar with the duties of farm life, aiding his father in the development of a farm until 1847, when he came to America. He was then a young man of twenty-three years. Landing in New York, he made his way at once to Grand Haven, Mich., and became the first settler of this city from Holland. Here he engaged in the milling business for two years, and was then variously employed for a number of years. He had no capital at the time of his arrival and had to depend upon his own resources for a livelihood. After a time he began devoting his energies to farming and fruit-growing, and thus passed his time for several years. He was quite successful in that line, and as his financial resources were increased he began making judicious investments in real estate and dealt in town property. This proved a profitable investment and has yielded to him a good income.

In the year 1852 Mr. Bolt was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Cornelia Elfers, a native of the Netherlands. Their union was celebrated in Grand Haven, and unto them was born a family of eight children: Hannah, now

the wife of John Kolboord, a resident of Battle Creek, Mich.; Alice, at home; Jennie, the wife of John Boer; Henry, now deceased; Cornelia, who died at the age of six months; Henry J.; and Albert, who is engaged in merchandising in Grand Haven. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1892, and many friends mourned her loss.

Mr. Bolt is a member of the Second Reformed Church. In politics he is a pronounced Republican, warmly advocating the principles of the party with which he has long been identified. He was elected Street Commissioner of Grand Haven, and so acceptably did he fill the office that he was re-elected again and again until he had served in that position for ten years. He has always taken an active interest in school affairs, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. In fact, no worthy public enterprise seeks his aid in vain, he being ever ready to give his support and cooperation to those interests which are calculated to prove of public benefit. By his own well-directed efforts, and through the legitimate channels of business, he has achieved a success and acquired a competency which now enable him to lay aside all care and live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.



**C**APT. HENRY J. WOODS, the energetic and efficient keeper of the life-saving station of Muskegon, Mich., who is possessed of ability and courage, with a thoroughly practical training in the necessary duties of his responsible position, is eminently adapted to the faithful discharge of the obligations intrusted to his care. A native of the State of New York and born in Cattaraugus County May 29, 1850, our subject was the son of Henry J. and Hannah J. (Starkweather) Woods. The parents were both of New England birth and were reared in the Green Mountain State. The father and mother, descendants of long lines of reputable ancestry, were early trained to habits

of thrifty industry and self-reliantly attained to mature age. During their early years they enjoyed the advantage of instruction in the schools of their home neighborhood, but both soon began the earnest work of life. Marrying, they made their permanent home in New York, where the father, a farmer by occupation, was highly respected and numbered among the substantial men of his locality in the Empire State. Capt. Woods spent the days of boyhood upon the old homestead, assisting his father in the daily round of agricultural work and attending the nearest district school.

Continuing upon the old homestead and engaging in farming for sixteen years, our subject began the battle of life for himself soon after attaining his majority. He was for some time variously employed, but, a man of observation and excellent judgment, lost no opportunity to gain knowledge and thus advance himself in the world. Journeying after a time to the farther West, Capt. Woods came to Michigan, and in August, 1880, becoming one of the crew at the life-saving station of St. Joseph, held his position for two years, and during this period of time passed through a variety of thrilling and profitable experiences, serving an apprenticeship in the saving of human lives, many more of which, but for the established stations, would be annually sacrificed upon the dangerous lake coasts. Entering upon the duties of his present position in the year 1882, Capt. Woods has, with satisfaction to the Government, had full charge of the Muskegon station. He has with him a tried crew of men, veterans in the service, seven in number, and under his skillful command much heroic work has been accomplished. Our subject is a man to be relied upon in the hour of emergency, and no storm is too terrible, no danger too great, for him to face with calm courage and the confidence which inspires his men to renewed effort.

In the year 1881 were united in marriage Henry J. Woods and Miss Hulda A. Wells, of Grand Rapids, Mich. The estimable wife of our subject is a native of Ohio and was born in Marietta. Two daughters, bright and attractive, bless the home, Mattie H. and Gracie B., who will

enjoy every opportunity for an advanced education. Our subject is fraternally associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and is a valued member of the lodge at St. Joseph; he is likewise a member of the Muskegon Chapter, R. A. M. He is also associated with the Knights of Pythias, and has a host of friends among the time-honored orders. Capt. Woods has, in giving close attention to the manner and methods of the service, perfected some invaluable inventions of his own and given most important suggestions for future consideration. He has arranged a system of carriage locks and buoys, which facilitate and aid in transportation, and he displays mechanical genius of a high order. A brave officer and the right man for his post of danger, Capt. Henry Woods possesses the regard of a wide acquaintance and the full confidence of the general public.



**H**ON. HIRAM E. STAPLES, to whose enterprise and executive business ability the present prosperity of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., is mainly due, is not only the head of one of the largest lumber-mills of the State, but is also associated with other interests of magnitude and is justly entitled to the appellation of a lumber king. Mr. Staples was born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., June 1, 1836, and was the son of Henry and Mary (Connor) Staples, the parents of six children, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. One brother and one sister only survive. Joshua, who enlisted in the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry at the breaking out of the Civil War, died in a hospital in Washington, D. C. One after another three sisters have passed away. Jennie is a resident of Whitehall. The father, a native of the Empire State, was born in or near Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in 1811, the paternal grandparents making Poughkeepsie their lifetime home. Grandfather Joshua Staples was the son of Noah Staples,

an Englishman by birth, but a very early resident of America and a patriotic soldier of the Revolutionary War. The Stapleses, originally settling in New York, were small farmers, men of moderate tastes and means, but were possessed of strength of character, energy and resolution, which, bequeathed to our subject, formed his main capital in life during his early manhood.

The mother, Mary (Connor) Staples, was the daughter of Thomas Connor, a native of the United States but of direct English descent. His wife, the maternal grandmother of our subject, was the sister of William M. Dayton, candidate for Vice-President on the ticket with Fremont. Thomas Connor combined the dual occupations of farmer and contractor, and was a successful and highly respected man. In 1848, the Staples family emigrated from New York to Ravenna, Ohio, and in 1851 came to Michigan, locating in Hillsdale, and in 1857 came to Whitehall, then White Lake. Here the father followed farming on a small scale. Both parents are yet living, the father aged eighty-two, and the mother also at an advanced age. The honorable Mr. Staples, in common with other farmer lads, assisted upon the homestead in boyhood and attended the district school. He had entered upon his collegiate course in Albion (Mich.) College when the Civil War broke out, and, promptly answering to the call of the Government for "three hundred thousand more," left his books and in the early summer of 1861 enlisted as a private in the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, he and his brother Joshua both offering their service in behalf of national existence. Joshua, as before stated, died in the hospital, and our subject also fell a victim to exposures and privations, and was likewise conveyed to the army hospital, from which he was finally sent to his home, being discharged from the army for disability.

As soon as he had somewhat recuperated, Mr. Staples engaged in the handling of timber lands and lumber. His available means were small, but with his characteristic energy he soon began to accumulate a capital and was ere long enabled to enlarge the scope of his enterprises. In 1868, he had prospered to such an extent that in company with his brother-in-law, Lyman Covell, he bought the present site

of their now extensive mills, which, then limited in size, have become the largest manufactories of lumber in the world. Aside from these mills our subject has invested in numerous paying enterprises, owning a line of boats, and also being for many years the President of the Log and Boom Company, which does an immense business, one of the largest in the State. Mr. Staples assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of Whitehall and was its Vice-President until that financial institution was merged into the State Savings Bank of Whitehall, of which he is Vice-President and a heavy stockholder. Our subject is also engaged extensively in the manufacture of shingles and is likewise a partner in a large mercantile house. He is a very busy man, and without seeking political honors has had them thrust upon him. For two terms he served ably as Supervisor, was for many years President of the Council, and in 1884 and 1885 was a member of the State Legislature and, associated with important committees, served with rare efficiency and to the great satisfaction of his constituents.

In 1861 were united in marriage Hiram E. Staples and Miss Rebecca Covell, a sister of his business partner and Mark B. and Charles E. Covell, prominent lumbermen of Muskegon County. Four children blessed the union, two of whom died in infancy. The eldest son, Dudley E., a graduate of Orchard Lake Military School, is now connected with his father in business. H. Earl, a recent graduate from the Whitehall High School, is a young man of promise and unusual ability. Mr. and Mrs. Staples are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject is a liberal supporter. Prominently connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, Mr. Staples assisted in the organization of the lodge at Montague, and also aided to establish the lodge at Whitehall. He was the first master of each lodge, and has held that position in the Whitehall Lodge for the past seven years. He has taken the thirty-second degree of Masonry and is also a member of the shrine. Politically, he is and has been a life-long Republican and is a descendant of an old-line and loyal Whig family. Essentially the architect of his own fortune, the Hon. Hiram E. Staples

will leave as a most valuable inheritance to his sons the untarnished record of a life successful from every point of view, his daily walk being dominated by the sterling integrity and steadfastness of purpose which have overcome obstacles and won him a position of honor and influence among the leading men of Michigan.

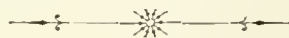


**S**AVIAS E. BROWN, a prosperous contractor and builder of Muskegon, Mich., was materially aided in the improvement of his home city by the erection of numerous handsome structures, private residences and public buildings, all within the corporate limits of the town. Our subject is a native of Vermont and was born in Lamoille County, September 21, 1843. His father, Samuel H. Brown, also a native of the Green Mountain State and a man of fine ability and upright character, remained throughout his lifetime a resident of New England, and after a life of busy usefulness passed away in New Hampshire in the year 1892. The paternal grandfather, Joel Brown, a brave soldier of the War of 1812, was a native of Massachusetts, the Browns having settled upon the rock-bound coast of our country in a very early day, and throughout these past changing years of more than a century have as citizens been distinguished by earnest effort and patriotic motives. Their remote ancestry were of Scottish birth, possessing the virtues of the country noted for its industrious thrift. The mother, Fanny (Fales) Brown, a native of Massachusetts, was, like her husband, a descendant of an old New England family.

Our subject spent the days of his childhood in his birthplace and enjoyed excellent educational advantages in the common schools of Vermont. At the age of eighteen years he decided to try his fortunes in the broader fields of the West, and in 1861, making a prospecting tour, visited a number of prominent places, finally coming to Michigan, and in 1863 locating permanently in Muskegon.

Here three years later, in 1866, Mr. Brown, by trade a carpenter and builder, began contracting, and meeting from the first with the most gratifying success has continued uninterruptedly in that business ever since. Our subject built many of the county buildings and erected the Muskegon Water Works plant at Lake Harbor, and in 1890 sunk the wells which supplied the city with water. He also built the Electric Light plant, and in all his work for private parties or corporations has given universal satisfaction by the prompt and faithful fulfillment of his obligations and the excellence of material and workmanship he has invariably furnished. Mr. Brown has likewise been especially successful in laying cement walks, which are of the best quality and superior durability.

In 1868 Savias E. Brown and Miss Mary L. Bourdon, of Muskegon, were united in marriage. The estimable wife of our subject was a native of New York State and was reared and educated amid the scenes of her early childhood. The attractive home, No. 44 Houston Avenue, is brightened by the presence of three sons and three daughters. Fannie Mabel is the eldest-born, then follow in the order of their birth Phœbe Ann, Clarence E., Clinton E., William E. and Lorane. Mr. and Mrs. Brown and their intelligent family occupy high positions in the social world of Muskegon and enjoy the esteem of a wide circle of friends. Our subject is fraternally a member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and while not a politician is a Democrat, deeply interested in both local and national issues, and is numbered among the substantial citizens, ever ready to assist in matters of mutual welfare.



**C**HARLES L. KING. In noting the business interests of a city or town, it is particularly gratifying to be able to point to the success of such a house as that of C. L. King & Co., for the reason that their success may be used as a fair gauge of the average of prosperity in the community. With the inventions, improvements and other ac-



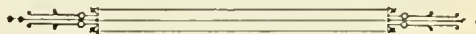
cessories discovered, a degree of excellence closely akin to perfection in the manufacture of fruit packages, wood plates, veneers, etc., has been attained in the last ten or twelve years. Charles L. King, who has been engaged in manufacturing the above-mentioned articles in Holland since 1891, is a gentleman possessed of excellent business capacity and good judgment.

He was born at Winona, Minn., February 22, 1856, and his father, L. R. King, was a native of the Keystone State, where he grew to manhood. At an early date he came Westward and settled in Winona, Minn., where he was elected to the office of Sheriff, being the first one in the county. Later he removed to Rochester, Minn., and he there embarked in the agricultural implement business and followed this until his death, in 1868. He married Miss Rebecca Shephard and to them were born seven children, two besides our subject now living. Both parents were worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and active workers in the same. The father, who was a successful business man, accumulated a large property, and gave liberally to the support of all worthy enterprises.

The youthful days of our subject were passed in Winona, Minn., and he was educated in the schools of that city and those of Rochester. After the death of his father our subject continued to live in Rochester for three years, when he joined a surveying expedition to Yellowstone Park and experienced many thrilling adventures during this trip. Returning home, he went to New York City and there followed the cigar business for about six months, after which he went to Chicago, where he learned the business he is now following, and which he has made such a decided success. Two years later he took charge of a factory at Decatur, Mich., and operated it two and a-half years, when the factory was moved to Muskegon and he took charge of it there. The factory mentioned was the Wood Package and Basket Company, and our subject managed that for several years.

From there Mr. King went to Montague, Mich., where he branched out in business for himself. The present company was organized in August, 1881, and the Hanchett Paper Company, of Chicago, is controlled by the firm of C. L. King & Co. Mr.

King selected his wife in the person of Miss Mary Johnson, daughter of William Johnson, and their union was solemnized in the year 1882. Politically, Mr. King is a strong Republican and has taken an active part in the work of his party. While residing at Montague he was a member of the Council and was prominent in all matters of moment. The large factory of C. L. King & Co. was erected in 1891 and they now have five large buildings. The main building is a fine structure, made of Zeeland brick, and is 73x223 feet. Their capital is about \$150,000 and they do an annual business of \$250,000. About two hundred hands are employed. This firm also has a Chicago office, situated at Nos. 11 and 13 La Salle Street. Mr. King has been at the head of this business since it first started and is familiar with its every detail. Socially, he is a Knight Templar of the Masonic fraternity, also of the Mystic Shrine, and is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is active in his support of all worthy measures, is public spirited and pushing, and a credit to any community. Whole-souled and genial, his friends are legion.



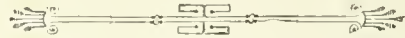
**G** H. MASON, an extensive general merchant, and present Deputy Collector of the port of Montague, Muskegon County, Mich., is numbered among the substantial citizens and leading men of his locality. Our subject was born in Lindsay, Victoria County, Ontario, February 1, 1862, and is the son of Lawrence and Bessie (Smith) Mason, both of English nativity. The father was born in Devonshire in 1838, and was only a little lad when the paternal grandfather, Richard Mason, a mechanic, emigrated with his family to America. Grandfather Mason settled with his children in Canada, later removed to New York, and finally made his permanent home in Michigan, locating in Montague, where he died some four years ago. Lawrence Mason, the father, is a man of fine education and excellent business at-

tainments and, prospered financially, is now living upon his highly cultivated farm near Montague. The mother of Mr. Mason, born in Wiltshire, England, was the daughter of a hotel-keeper of that country, and went to Canada when she was a small child, but in a short time went to New York State, later returning to Canada, where her parents died. Mr. Mason was the eldest of the six children who blessed the home of the father and mother. Ida died at the age of twelve years; Fred is a clerk in the store of our subject; Nellie, the second daughter, married Prof. H. A. Corbett, Principal of the schools at White Cloud, Mich.; Mabel lives with her parents; the other brother died in infancy.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood in Lindsay, Ontario, where his father was then engaged in business. Educated mainly in the High School of Lindsay, he completed a thorough course of study by the time he was sixteen years old, and then was employed in an office as book-keeper. The place of business in which he engaged was a railroad, steamship, telegraph and express office. He remained with this company for two years, and during this length of time mastered every branch of the business. Our subject next became an express messenger on the Grand Trunk Railroad, but resigned that position to accept the more congenial occupation of a book-keeper for Mason Brothers, uncles of his, engaged in mercantile business at Montague, Mich. This change in his location occurred in 1880, and for four or five years Mr. Mason remained with the firm in the capacity of an employe. One of the uncles having died in the meantime, our subject then bought the entire business, which he has since most profitably conducted.

For a time our subject ran branch houses at Ferry and Shelby, but finally closed them, and now concentrates his attention upon the one large store in Montague, which controls the best trade of its vicinity. Mr. Mason has also been interested in real estate, but devotes himself mainly to handling merchandise. In November, 1885, G. H. Mason and Miss Emma Dalton were united in marriage. Mrs. Mason is a daughter of Peter Dalton, one of the pioneer lumbermen of Montague. Two sons,

George Dowling, aged six years, and William Lawrence, aged two, have brightened the happy home. Mrs. Mason, an accomplished lady and superior scholar and a graduate of St. Mary's, of Indiana, inherited from her father considerable real estate, now managed by Mr. Mason. Politically a Democrat, our subject has always been deeply interested in matters of mutual welfare, and as Collector of the port has discharged the duties incident to the office to the great satisfaction of all interested. Fraternally, Mr. Mason is a valued member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and in his social and business relations commands the esteem of a wide acquaintance. His home, the abode of hospitality, is the centre of attraction for many friends, both Mr. and Mrs. Mason being general favorites in Montague.



**G**EORGE B. WOODBURY, a prominent business man residing in Eggleston Township, Muskegon County, is passing the twilight of his life quietly and serenely upon his homestead on section 36. He is a native of Massachusetts, and was born in Sutton, Worcester County, November 18, 1816. He spent his boyhood days in the old Bay State and thence at an early age removed to western Michigan, and stopped for a time at Grand Haven, proceeding from that place to Muskegon. Here he engaged in engineering and also conducted a large business as a blacksmith for several years.

In 1850, attracted to the far West by the discovery of gold in California, Mr. Woodbury proceeded to that State, the journey being made via the Isthmus of Panama. After a long and tedious voyage he arrived in the golden region, where he engaged in mining and in other pursuits for about eighteen months. He then sailed on the brig "Mexico" up the Pacific Coast as far as Queen Charlotte Island. The report of fabulous quantities of gold to be found in that country induced him, with a number of other men, to attempt its

discovery. After a few weeks of prospecting, they were disappointed in their search for gold. Having heard of a white metal which they supposed to be silver existing in quantities farther up the coast, they continued their journey to that point. Again they suffered disappointment, for the silver they expected to find proved to be only a beautiful white substance, a stalactite formation.

The adventurous miners found the Indians very numerous and aggressive, making it necessary for them to erect barricades and use every means of protection. At the time of their departure, the savages gathered in great numbers along the shore near the vessel. To avoid an attack, they waited for the outgoing tide and suddenly, hoisting sail, with a gentle breeze blowing from the shore, they sped smoothly out to sea, followed by hundreds of Indians in their canoes. The attempt of the natives to fasten a line to the vessel and tow it back to shore was only prevented by the careful guarding of the sailors. The pursuit continued some seven or eight miles out to sea, and, the speed of the vessel increasing, the canoes with their occupants gradually disappeared in the distance. In due course of time and without further event, the voyagers arrived at the Golden Gate.

Mr. Woodbury next assisted in erecting a saw-mill at Humboldt Bay, a short distance from the coast. He continued engaged in that business about eighteen months, but about six months later returned by the Nicaragua route to Grand Haven. In that city, on the 11th of December, 1853, he was united in marriage with Miss Rachel S., daughter of George W. and Harriet E. (Ford) Johnson. The newly-wedded pair commenced housekeeping at Ferrisburg, where Mr. Woodbury engaged as an engineer for a milling and lumbering company. After one year in that village, he again located in Muskegon, where he followed the business of engineering and blacksmithing.

On the 24th of April, 1885, Mr. Woodbury came to Eggleston Township and settled upon the farm where he has since resided. This farm embraces one hundred and ten acres, equally divided by the Grand Rapids Road, and is considered the best estate in the township. Politically,

Mr. Woodbury is a true Republican, and, while having no political aspirations, takes a deep interest in matters of public importance. Socially, he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife have been the parents of the following sons and daughters: Lizzie, Mrs. W. J. Near, of Muskegon; William Henry and Hattie, deceased; Lincoln J., who is a resident of Park City, Utah; and George B., Jr., living at home. Mrs. Woodbury is the niece of Jonathan Ford, the first settler of Muskegon, who built the first sawmill in the place.



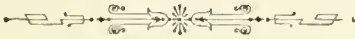
**W**EDSON STICKNEY, who is engineer and machinist of the Hachley & Hume Lumber Mills, of Muskegon, was born in Painesville, Ohio, January 16, 1812, and is a son of Charles W. Stickney, a native of Vermont, who became one of the early settlers of Lake County, Ohio, where he located in 1816. The mother of our subject was in her maidenhood Nancy E. Ballard. She was born in Connecticut, and was a daughter of James Ballard, one of the honored pioneers of Lake County, Ohio.

In his native city, Edson Stickney was reared to manhood, and in its common schools he acquired a good education. When a young man of twenty years he offered his services to the Government, donning the blue in 1862 as a member of Company D, One Hundred and Fifth Ohio Infantry. The regiment was commanded by Col. Hall, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in many important battles, including the engagements at Perryville, Chickamauga, and Mission Ridge and was in the Atlanta campaign. He then went with Sherman on the memorable march to the sea and through the Carolinas. After about three years of faithful service, during which he was always found at his post of duty, he was mustered out at Washington, D. C., in June, 1865.

The honored soldier then returned to his home in Painesville, Ohio, where he remained until the

spring of 1868, when he went to Newaygo County, Mich., and settled in Bridgeton, where he established a small shingle mill, which he carried on for two years. On the expiration of that time we find him in the city of Muskegon, where he has since made his home. He now holds a good position as engineer in the machinery department of the Hachley & Hume Mills. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles. He is a charter member of Muskegon Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W., and a charter member of the Modern Woodmen Camp of Muskegon.

Mr. Stickney has been twice married. In 1874 he was united in marriage with Miss Elmira M. Graves, who died in 1876. In 1883, he was again married, Miss Minnie C. Armstrong, a native of Van Wert, Ohio, and a daughter of Sidney J. Armstrong, becoming his wife. Their union has been blessed by a son and daughter, Clarence B. and Ethel May, who are the light and life of the parents' home. The family resides at No. 118 West Muskegon Avenue. Mr. Stickney keeps up his army acquaintance through his membership with Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R. He was one of the valiant soldiers to whom the country owes her safety and in a large degree her present prosperity. For three years he was at the front, much of the time under fire and always ready to aid in the defense of the Old Flag which now floats so proudly over the united Nation.



**L**UTHER WHITNEY, a retired merchant of Muskegon, was born July 26, 1815, in Gilsun, Cheshire County, N. H. His ancestors came from England to America in 1635. His grandfather, Samuel Whitney, served as one of the heroes of the Revolution. The father, Luther Whitney, Sr., was born in Gilsun in 1791, and was a merchant and manufacturer. He married Betsy Dart, also a native of Gilsun, and in 1827 removed with his family to Lawrence County, N. Y., where he spent his remaining days.

Our subject was the eldest child of a family of four. He remained in the old Granite State until twelve years of age and then accompanied his parents to New York, where he grew to manhood and completed his education in the district school and by a two-years course in St. Lawrence Academy. After starting out in life for himself he came to the West and for a time engaged in clerking in a dry-goods store in Green Bay, Wis. He afterward spent one winter in a lumber camp, and subsequently we find him in Kenosha, Wis., where he remained for several years, engaged in merchandising and in dealing in lumber. He also engaged in the grain business for a time, then went to Detroit, Mich., where he devoted his energies to the manufacture of washboards about one year. Returning to Kenosha, he there remained during the three succeeding years, and in 1864 he came to Muskegon. Accepting a position as bookkeeper in the lumber business of Gideon Truesdell, he remained in that business from 1864 until 1873.

Mr. Whitney was married in November, 1843, the lady of his choice being Miss Rebecca J. Irwin, of Green Bay, Wis., and a daughter of Robert Irwin. She was born in that city and there spent the days of her maidenhood. By their union they have become the parents of three children, of whom two are now living: George B., a contractor and builder and civil engineer, now residing in Chicago; and Thomas D., who also resides in Chicago and is now traveling auditor for Armour & Co.

In early life Mr. Whitney was an old-line Whig, but on the organization of the Republican party he joined its ranks and has since fought under its banner. He was one of the members of Kenosha Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Kenosha, Wis., but has taken no very prominent part in social and public affairs, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. In 1875, he was appointed Postmaster of Muskegon, under Gen. Grant, and held the office for twelve consecutive years under Presidents Arthur and Hayes. That he promptly and faithfully performed his duties, and administered the affairs of the office to the satisfaction of the general public, is well indicated by his long

continued service. Several other public offices have been tendered him but he has refused to accept. He is now a stockholder in the Hackley National Bank, the National Lumberman's and the Muskegon Savings Bank. Mr. Whitney is now practically living retired in the enjoyment of the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves. His life has been a busy and useful one and his public and private career are alike above reproach. His success is due to his own industrious and well-directed efforts, and he may truly be called a self-made man. Mrs. Whitney is a member of the Congregational Church.



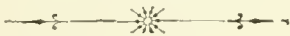
**C**HARLES H. PROCTOR, a successful general agriculturist located on section 3, Holton Township, Muskegon County, Mich., has held with ability nearly every official position of trust within the gift of his fellow-townsmen, and, a man of excellent judgment and superior attainments, has been an especially prominent factor in the educational advancement of his home neighborhood and vicinity. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, and as a School Inspector, with the exception of two years since the organization of the township, Mr. Proctor has materially aided in the promotion and rapid development of the best interests of Muskegon County. Our subject, a native of Roscoe Township, Ohio, and born in 1836, was the son of Hascal and Nancy (Shephard) Proctor. The paternal grandparents, Asa and Alice (Dane) Proctor, were long-time residents of the Green Mountain State. The paternal great-grandfather died when Asa was about seven years of age, and the grandfather was reared by Thomas Parker, of Lowell, Mass. Asa received a good common-school education and learned the carpenters' trade, being a wooden-plow and yoke-maker as well as a farmer. He married and settled in Vermont, and into his peaceful home came nine sons and daughters, all of whom survived to reach maturity.

The children of the paternal grandparents were, Sarah, a cripple; Hascal D., the father of our subject; Samuel C. and Alonzo, deceased; Mandana, wife of Henry Stevens; Orville, deceased; Horatio, a resident of Ingham County, Mich.; and Horace and Merrill, deceased. Serving bravely in the War of 1812, the grandfather fought at Bennington. Politically, he was a Whig and a man of strong views. Reared upon a farm, his son Hascal received but a limited education, and at the age of fourteen was bound out to learn the trade of a tool-maker and blacksmith. Serving a faithful apprenticeship for four years, the father then began life for himself, and at about the age of twenty-one was united in marriage with the daughter of William and Nancy Shephard. Ambitious and enterprising, he later removed to Ohio, and in Cleveland worked as a tool-maker. He died in 1847, mourned by many friends. Politically, he was a strong Democrat, and was esteemed as a true and loyal citizen. Of his two children, but one survived; the other died in infancy. The mother passing away three weeks after the death of the father, our subject was left an orphan at the age of eleven years, and began life for himself.

A mere lad, cast entirely upon his own resources, Charles Proctor at once found his way to the country, and for one year worked upon a farm for his food and clothes. At twelve years of age our subject joined his grandparents, Proctor, in Stockbridge, Mich., to which part of the Wolverine State the venerable pioneers had emigrated in a very early day. Mr. Proctor remained with his grandparents until twenty-three years of age, and received a good education in the schools of Lansing, and, possessing musical ability, fitted himself for a teacher, and for four years gave instruction in vocal music.

Miss Elizabeth, daughter of John Snyder, and a native of Washtenaw County, Mich., was married to Mr. Proctor in Ann Arbor. Five children blessed their union. Flora is the wife of George L. Bull, of Wisconsin; Frank was the second-born; Edith married Herman L. Black, of Laketon, Mich.; Lewis D. and Monie complete the list of sons and daughters who have brightened the home. Mr. Proctor having remained upon the farm of his

grandparents until their death, then located in the dense woods of Muskegon County. There were no roads, but the trees were blazed for section lines. The family settled in Holton Township in oak openings. At the expiration of two years Mr. Proctor purchased his present valuable farm of eighty acres, which our subject cleared, logged and improved himself. Mr. and Mrs. Proctor were both members of the Presbyterian Church, but the estimable wife of our subject later joined the Baptist Church. The daughter Flora was graduated at Fremont, and for years successfully taught in Muskegon County. Fraternally, Mr. Proctor is associated with the County Grange, and politically is an ardent Republican. Continuously engaged in the service of the public in an official capacity, our subject has amply demonstrated his ability to hold office to the great satisfaction of the community by whom he is surrounded. When the Civil War broke out he twice endeavored to enlist, but was refused for physical disability, and then patriotically gave \$75 and later \$90 to clear his township of the draft. Although absent by force of circumstances from the battlefield, the loyalty of our subject was unquestioned, and no man in his locality to-day has a firmer hold upon the true esteem of his friends and neighbors than Charles H. Proctor.



**J**AMES D. CHEESMAN, the enterprising President and Treasurer of the Cheesman-Kelley Manufacturing Company, of Muskegon, Mich., is a long-time resident and prominent citizen of his present locality, and for thirty years has been closely identified with the progressive interests of the Wolverine State. Born in Jefferson County, N. Y., April 11, 1812, our subject was but twenty years of age when, independently setting out to seek his fortune in the West, he came to Muskegon. His father, Francis Cheesman, likewise a native of the Empire State, was the son of Jeremiah Cheesman, who cour-

ageously fought in the War of the Revolution. The mother, Susan (Kellog) Cheesman, born, reared and educated in the Empire State, was the descendant of sturdy ancestry, who made their home in America in a very early day. The father, by occupation a contractor and builder, was well known and highly respected in his lifetime home, Mr. Cheesman spent the years of his boyhood in his birthplace, and received a good, substantial education in the excellent district school of his home neighborhood. Attaining to mature years, and trained to habits of self-reliant industry, he determined to enter upon the labor of life in a newer field of action, and with the tide of emigration journeyed to Michigan.

Locating in Muskegon in 1862, our subject received immediate and remunerative employment in a sawmill, where he continued to remain for a number of years. Finally, in 1887, he organized the Cheesman-Kelley Manufacturing Company, with James D. Cheesman as President and Treasurer, T. B. McNiff Vice-president, and M. G. Avery Secretary. The company, financially prospered, does a large and rapidly extending business, the success of the enterprise being mainly due to the energetic efforts and executive ability of the President and Treasurer, who is also one of the principal stockholders of the company. The extensive plant of the Cheesman-Kelley Company is located at the corner of East Western Avenue and the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad tracks, and does a general planing-mill business, manufacturing boxes and interior and exterior finishings, and likewise building stairs, etc. It commands one of the largest lines of custom given to any similar establishment in this part of the State. Literally a self-made man, of earnest purpose and sterling integrity, our subject has in truth won his way upward unaided, and now, one of the leading business men of Muskegon, has attained a position of influence, commanding the respect of all who know him.

In the year 1866 were united in marriage James D. Cheesman and Miss Helen J. Dean, daughter of Harvey and Abbie (Warren) Dean, both of sturdy New England ancestry. The mother of Mrs. Cheesman was a native of Connecticut, and was there

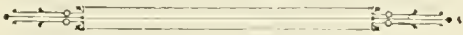




*H. Swidge*



reared and educated, but died in the Empire State in 1859. Mr. Dean, also a native of New England, was a farmer by occupation, and after residing in New York returned to Massachusetts, and from the old Bay State emigrated in 1862 to Muskegon, Mich. The union of our subject and his accomplished wife has been blessed by the birth of two children, a son and a daughter, Frank T. and Addie, now at home. The pleasant and commodious family residence is located at No. 16 West Webster Avenue, Muskegon, and, desirably situated, is well known to a large circle of intimate acquaintances and long-time friends. Occupying positions of useful influence, Mr. and Mrs. Cheesman take an active part in the social and benevolent enterprises of their locality, our subject being a ready aid in all matters pertaining to the public welfare.



**H**UNTER SAVIDGE was a well-known resident of Spring Lake, Ottawa County. He was born in Columbia County, Pa., April 6, 1828, and was of English descent. His parents, Benjamin and Esther (Hunter) Savidge, were both natives of New Jersey, and had a family of thirteen children, of whom our subject was fifth in order of birth. He remained in the Keystone State until he had attained his majority, and acquired a good education in the public schools.

Having arrived at man's estate, Mr. Savidge resolved to try his fortune in the West and emigrated to Rockford, Ill., where he carried on contracting and building until 1856. That year witnessed his arrival in Spring Lake, where he embarked in the manufacture of lumber. In 1861, the partnership of Cutler & Savidge was formed, which became one of the most extensive and best-known lumber firms in the West. When Mr. Savidge was about nine years of age his parents removed to Northumberland County, Pa., where his father worked at his trade of a mechanic. Hunter there learned the business, and at the age of eight-

teen was a most proficient workman in that line. He then gave his attention to mechanical work and to school-teaching, but on his removal to Rockford abandoned the latter and took up contracting and building. We thus see that his previous work made him well fitted for the business in which he now engaged as a partner of D. Cutler. They prospered from the beginning, and Mr. Savidge became owner of a large amount of valuable property and was sole proprietor of the famous hotel, the Spring Lake House, one of the most popular summer resorts of northwestern Michigan.

On the 12th of February, 1857, Mr. Savidge married Miss Sarah C., daughter of Lyman Patten, who resided near Grand Rapids, Mich. They became the parents of three children; William, now of Detroit; Esther, wife of N. Robins, Jr., of Grand Haven; and George P., who is pursuing a scientific course of study in the Shetfield School, of Yale. Mrs. Savidge is still living in Spring Lake, where she has a palatial residence, handsomely furnished and beautifully and pleasantly located upon a site which commands a picturesque view of the city. She is a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, and is a lady whose many excellencies of character have won for her the love of all.

Our subject was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of this community, and was connected with many leading interests besides the lumber business. At the time of his death he was a Director of the National Bank of Grand Haven, President of the Ottawa County Booming Company, a Director of the Grand River & Greenville Log Rolling Company, and his wealth, the income from these various concerns, was estimated at a-half million. Socially, he was connected with the Masonic fraternity and Odd Fellows' society. In politics, he was a Democrat, but was never a politician in the sense of office-seeking. However, he made an excellent run in 1868 for State Senator, and though the Republicans were greatly in the majority he was defeated by only a few votes. He was a public-spirited man, generous and benevolent, and never failed to respond to any call for aid in public improvement. Churches,

schools and charities always found in him a valuable friend, and the poor and needy were never turned from his door empty-handed. In cool, clear judgment he had few equals, never losing perfect control, no matter what the emergency. His advice to a man in an emergency, was "Cut down your expenses and keep cool." He had the respect of all with whom business or social relations brought him in contact, and his word was as good as his bond. He passed away April 11, 1881, and in his death the community lost one of its best citizens, his associates a faithful friend, and his family a loving husband and father.



**D**AVID A. WILSON, a successful lumberman of Muskegon, Mich., and the efficient Alderman representing the Fifth Ward in the Common Council, is a native of his home city, and, born September 6, 1865, has ever since attaining his majority been intimately associated with the progressive interests of his birthplace, and is widely known as an enterprising citizen and man of sterling integrity. The father of our subject, Matthew Wilson, a pioneer lumberman of Michigan and President of the Union National Bank of Muskegon, continues a resident of the city where he settled in 1855, and, engaging in lumbering, rapidly amassed a competence. Financially prospered, and a man of public spirit, he in 1889 organized the bank with which he is now prominently connected as the principal stockholder, Director and President. The estimable mother, Mrs. Mary L. Wilson, was likewise identified with the early history of Muskegon, and, a lady of worth and intelligence, was recognized as an important factor in the social life of the city. David A. completed the course of instruction in the Muskegon High School in 1883, graduating with honor. Immediately after leaving school he energetically entered into the lumber business and, anxious to acquire a practical training and master every detail, began his apprenticeship in the

woods, and later became superintendent of the woods business for his father.

Our subject is one of the largest stockholders in the Maxwell Lumber Company, of Muskegon. Winning his way rapidly to a leading business position, he is also one of the principal stockholders and a Director of the Magom & Kimball Coal Company, of Muskegon. Attaining a self-reliant and intelligent manhood in his native city, Mr. Wilson possesses a host of friends, his genial manners, courteous bearing and fine physique attracting all with whom he comes in contact, either in social or business relations. A general favorite in society, our subject received the congratulations and best wishes of a numerous acquaintance when, upon March 2, 1892, he was united in marriage with Miss Maud F. Marvin, daughter of Dr. Le Ray Marvin, a native of New York, but a long-time and highly regarded citizen of Muskegon. The mother of Mrs. Wilson, Ellen (Dyer) Marvin, born in Ohio, was a direct descendant of the Dyer family who, emigrating to America in the "Mayflower," founded in this country a branch of the Dyers who have given to the United States some of her bravest and most enterprising citizens, men of learning and business ability, and women of culture and broad intelligence. The accomplished wife of our subject, a lady of refinement and winning presence, is a most gracious hostess, and she and her husband, in their magnificent home, No. 37 Peck Street, Muskegon, entertain royally many of the most distinguished people of the Wolverine State.

Politically a Democrat, Mr. Wilson is a leader in the local councils of the party, and while his ward is one of the strongholds of the city Republicans, was elected upon the Democratic ticket by a handsome majority. In his official position zealous in the service of the city and true to the best interests of his constituents, our subject commands universal confidence and esteem. He is fraternally associated with Lovell Moore Lodge No. 182, A. F. & A. M., and is likewise a member of Lodge No. 48, B. P. O. C., the Grand Lodge being located at Cleveland, Ohio. Possessing quick discernment and keen judgment, and being prompt to grasp a situation, Mr. Wilson has won

his way to a high place among the substantial business men and capitalists of the State, and in the handling of large moneyed interests and public trusts has exhibited an executive ability which assures his able fulfillment of every obligation of life as a friend, citizen and public man, faithfully aiding in the general welfare and upward progress of his fellow-men.

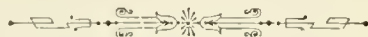


**A**NDREW J. EMLAW. Mr. Emlaw, formerly one of the foremost lumber manufacturers of Grand Haven, Mich., is now retired from the active duties of life, and lives in the enjoyment of a handsome home on Franklin Street, Grand Haven. His long life of industry and usefulness, and his record for integrity and true-hearted faithfulness in all the relations of life, have given him a strong hold upon the community which all might well desire to share. His career is an example of the prosperity that comes to him who strives, for his success in life has not been the result of chance, but of his individual and continuous efforts. Mr. Emlaw is a native of Vermont, a State always suggestive of the honest, hard and rugged character in human life, and was born in Alburgh Springs February 5, 1829.

His parents, Michael and Wealthy (Maxfield) Emlaw, were both natives of the Empire State. The father was born on the shore of Lake Champlain in 1800. He was a cooper by trade and an honest, industrious man. Mrs. Emlaw was the daughter of Isaac Maxfield and of Scotch descent. By her marriage to Mr. Emlaw she became the mother of eight children, the original of this notice being sixth in order of birth. The early educational advantages of our subject were received in the district schools of Franklin County, N. Y., and later he learned the trade of a millwright. In the year 1849 he came to Michigan and located in Grand Haven, where he followed his trade and was also engaged in building sawmills up to 1866,

when he formed a partnership with C. L. Storrs & Co., the firm continuing under the title for five years, when it was changed to Reynolds & Emlaw. This firm manufactured pine lumber and continued the business successfully up to 1875, when the mill burned. In 1881 the Grand Haven Lumber Company was organized with C. Boyden as President, Mr. Emlaw Vice-President and H. C. A. Keley as Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Emlaw is sole owner of the gas plant of Grand Haven.

Our subject remained in the business until 1885, when he retired, and is now living a happy, contented life. He has ever been interested in the public weal, is generous in his support of worthy measures, and is a model citizen, as all who are acquainted with him know. The soul of honesty in all his business transactions, by his correct mode of living he has made numerous warm and faithful friends. Blood will surely tell, and men who come from good and honored ancestors, and are reared in an atmosphere of honesty and good principles, will assuredly make their mark in whatever field of labor fate may destine them to work. Mr. Emlaw was married in 1872 to Miss Louisa Bentham, of Grand Haven, Mich., and two children have blessed this union, Harlan S. and Martha L. Mr. Emlaw's views are embodied in the declarations of the Republican party, and his vote is cast with that organization.



**E**RNEST A. WORDEN. With the development and advancement of any great commonwealth are indissolubly connected the names and careers of certain men who, uniting their efforts, and with the love of their country at heart, have sought the advancement of their respective callings, and thus reflected credit not only upon themselves, but upon their professions and their State. Thus it is that Michigan has within her borders many men to whom she may justly point the finger of pride, and whose names are inseparably connected with her advancement,

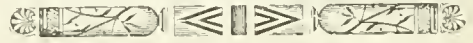
morally, intellectually and financially. Standing pre-eminent among the real-estate dealers of Muskegon, Mich., is Ernest A. Worden, who has made his name of enduring value in this city.

This worthy representative of the real-estate interests of Muskegon County is a native of Michigan, born in Utica, Macomb County, September 2, 1852. His parents, Carey and Mary E. (Madison) Worden, were natives of New York and New Hampshire, respectively, the father born in Dutchess County August 1, 1809, and the mother in Chester March 26, 1819. The former is still living and makes his home in Almont, Lapeer County, Mich. For many years he was a merchant in the Lake State. His wife died on the 31st of July, 1861, in Almont, Mich. They were the parents of four children, our subject being third in order of birth. This was his father's second union.

When two years of age, our subject was taken by his parents to Almont, Mich., and there, as soon as old enough, he began attending the district school. Later he entered the High School, and after finishing there began clerking in his father's store, remaining in the same until eighteen years of age. He then came to Muskegon County, and in 1872 began clerking in the dry-goods store of Smith & Platt, at Muskegon, where he remained until 1880. That year he embarked in the dry-goods business on his own account, and continued the same until the fall of 1889, when he sold out and went South and East in search of health. Returning to Muskegon in 1890, he embarked in the real-estate business, and is dealing very extensively in city property. He is conducting transactions in all branches of the business, buying, selling, exchanging, etc., and is well equipped and prepared to attend to orders and commissions promptly and satisfactorily.

In his choice of a life companion he selected Miss Lida T. Merrill, a native of Muskegon, Mich., and the daughter of E. W. Merrill. Their union was solemnized in 1876, and they have one daughter, whose birth occurred May 28, 1881. They have an elegant residence situated in the center of the block, and this neat home is of the latest style of architecture, is situated on one of the best

paved streets of the city, and in a good neighborhood. Socially, Mr. Worden is a Royal Arch Mason, and, politically, a staunch Democrat. He and his wife are held in high esteem in the community, and take a leading part in all worthy movements.



**H**ON. THOMAS WHITE FERRY, of Grand Haven, who was from 1875 to 1877 President of the United States Senate, and acting Vice-President of the United States, was born at Mackinac, June 1, 1827, and was but seven years old when he removed with his parents to the wild home at Grand Haven, to experience the hardships and adversities of pioneer life. He received a common-school education and was bred to business pursuits. With the exception of two years spent as a clerk in a store in Illinois, he remained a co-laborer with his father until the latter's death, in 1867. In partnership with his brother, E. P. Ferry, he later continued the lumber business, which under his general management was prosecuted with energy and success.

He early manifested an interest in public matters, and at the age of twenty-one years was chosen County Clerk of Ottawa County. Two years later, in 1850, he was elected a Representative to the Michigan Legislature to serve a term of two years. In 1856 he was elected State Senator for two years. For eight years he was an active member of the State Republican Committee. He was a delegate-at-large, and one of the Vice-Presidents of the National Republican Convention at Chicago in 1860, which nominated Abraham Lincoln. In 1863 he was appointed Commissioner for Michigan of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg. In 1864 he was elected a Representative to the Thirty-ninth Congress, and was re-elected successively to the Fortieth, Forty-first and Forty-second Congresses, serving on some of the most important committees. In January, 1871, after an exciting contest, he was elected United States Senator for six years. He consequently surrendered his fourth-

term place in the House of Representatives of the Forty-second Congress, and took his place in the Senate March 4, 1871. His services of six years in the House, and the legislative experience there obtained, were recognized when he entered the Senate. He was chosen Chairman of the Committee on Revision of Rules; afterwards was repeatedly elected President *pro tempore* of the Senate; and by virtue of this office, upon the death of Vice-President Wilson, became Acting Vice-President of the United States. He was president of the joint meeting of the two houses of Congress during the intensely exciting count of the electoral votes resulting in the choice of President Hayes and Vice-President Wheeler. In this position he acquitted himself with such impartiality and ability, that he was re-elected March 4, 1877, by a unanimous vote President *pro tempore* of the Senate. In January, 1877, he was re-elected United States Senator, to serve for the term of six years. In early life he acted with the Whigs, but joined the Republican party as soon as it was organized, and at once became a zealous advocate of its principles. In every campaign since 1860, he has canvassed the State in behalf of the Republican candidate. As a public speaker his power lies in his earnest language, concise statements and sound logic, without any attempt at eloquence or oratorical display. His course in Congress has met with the general approbation of the people of all parties in Michigan. He has done much to advance the interests of his native State. To his efforts Michigan is generally indebted for the generous river and harbor improvements which have so materially aided in developing her resources and in preserving the lives and property of her citizens. It was mainly through his efforts, also, that the beautiful Island of Mackinac, or as much of it as belongs to the United States, has been converted into a National Park. He also labored zealously in the cause of the soldiers and sailors of Michigan who participated in the late Civil War. His speeches on finance have been widely read and are highly valued. He has done much to perfect the postal system, and his work on the Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads has elicited the highest praise from the press

throughout the country. The present rules of the United States Senate, adopted by that body under his revision and report, are a standing tribute to his ability as a parliamentarian. To promote the general welfare has been the object of his Congressional life. An indefatigable worker, courteous and upright, his career reflects honor upon his State and country.



PROF. DANIEL J. MORIARTY, known all over the county as "Uncle Dan," belongs to one of the Irish-American families of Muskegon, Mich., and no one is better known for earnest industry and devotion to duty, as well as for the intelligent management of his affairs, than he. He has been sufficiently shrewd to grasp at every opportunity offered for the bettering of his financial condition, but has never done so at the expense of his own self-respect, or by fraudulent means. He has labored faithfully for himself and family and is now possessed of a competence gained by energetic and well-directed efforts. He is well known to the people of Muskegon, and his correct mode of living has gained him a popularity which is merited in every respect.

Our subject was born in Ireland in the year 1813, and is the son of James and Bridget (Shea) Moriarty, natives also of the Emerald Isle. The father followed the occupation of a farmer in his native country, and there passed his entire life. He was an honest, hard-working gentleman, and one whose career was ever upright and honorable. The mother, after the loss of her husband, came to this country, and made her home finally in this county, where she died. "Uncle Dan" received his scholastic training in the common schools and later attended school at Dublin, receiving a thorough course of instruction in that city. Finishing his education, he came to America in 1866 and opened the Muskegon Hotel, later the Forest City

House, which he carried on successfully until 1871, when it was destroyed by fire and he sustained a heavy loss.

Following his losses by fire, Mr. Moriarty embarked in the jewelry business and has continued that up to the present time. No man in the city occupies a higher position for energy, enterprise, public spirit, integrity and business rectitude than Mr. Moriarty. He is emphatically a business man, the carver of his own destiny, and has made it an honorable one. In the year 1833 he was married to Miss Mary Ann Marshall, the daughter of a Frenchman, and their nuptials were celebrated in New York City. They had an adopted daughter, Pearl Moriarty Power, who died in July, 1893. In politics, our subject is independent, voting for the man rather than the party, and has held a number of prominent positions in the city. He was first Alderman of the First Ward, then City Recorder, and while Alderman discharged the duties of acting Mayor repeatedly.

When starting out in life for himself, "Uncle Dan" first engaged in teaching school, and was Superintendent of the schools of New York for three years. He was a laborious student, and investigated very thoroughly every object that fell within his duties; and he is now a close reasoner, a deep thinker, and an honorable, upright citizen. He has been an ardent advocate of the cause of the laboring man and is interested in labor unions. Before "Uncle Dan" came to this city he held the Chair of Abstract Mathematics and Logic in the Notre Dame (Ind.) University, which position he occupied for three years.



**W**ILLIAM D. KELLY. It is the men of broad and comprehensive views who give life to communities and build cities—men who in the darkness of adverse circumstances as well as in more favorable periods look beyond the clouds and have the pluck and energy and foresight to push forward their enterprises, extend

speculation and fairly wrest success from calamity. Just such a man is William D. Kelly, who is the efficient Secretary and Treasurer of Kelly Bros.' Manufacturing Company. He is a native of Michigan, born in Grand Rapids May 15, 1858, and the son of Daniel and Mary (Clancy) Kelly, both natives of Ireland.

Daniel Kelly, father of the brothers from whom the company takes its name, removed from Grand Rapids to Muskegon in 1865. He had encouraged the genius of his sons from their earliest efforts, and when this firm was formed became the senior partner. Success achieved by honest industry is proverbial among Muskegon manufacturers, and the enterprise of the Kelly brothers is a conspicuous example of this fact. In the schools of Muskegon our subject received a good practical education, and besides learning the cabinet-maker's trade he also learned that of ship-building. In fact, he has proven himself a genius with tools. His designs are original and of the most unique character, and no man in Michigan possesses rarer qualities in that direction. He does all the designing for the extensive works of Kelly Bros.

In schoolboy days, being ambitious to help themselves, William D. and his brother John built a small ferry-boat to run on Muskegon Lake, one acting as captain and the other taking charge of the engine. The venture proved a success, and from their earnings they were able to build a larger and better boat and finally to launch in their business career as manufacturers. In 1883 they organized the Kelly Bros.' Manufacturing Company with a capital stock of \$40,000, but have increased it to \$60,000. To-day they have an extensive manufactory in Muskegon Heights and give employment to one hundred and fifty men. Their two-story brick building has two hundred and sixty-six feet front on McKinney Avenue, extending back one hundred and fifty feet, giving a floor space of fifty thousand feet. Their specialty is fine interior decoration and interior finish. They make all the cases for the Lyon & Healy Organ Company of Chicago, and the Rigway Refrigerators of Philadelphia, and have filled numerous extensive contracts for inside finishing, among which may be mentioned the Hackley Library and

many elegant residences in Muskegon, the Cuyahoga Building in Cleveland, and the recent fitting of the immense refrigerators in the Hotel Lexington and Hotel Plaza in Chicago. Their lumber sheds and dry-kilns are extensive and thoroughly equipped. A one hundred and forty horse power Corliss engine furnishes power for the works, and a one hundred and fifty incandescent electric light plant is maintained for illuminating.



**G**EORGE N. COBB. After many years spent in the pursuit of divers occupations in various States, Mr. Cobb, in 1869, permanently located in Norton Township, Muskegon County, where he now engages in raising fruit and also follows the vocation of a general farmer. While his estate is not large, aggregating about seventy acres, it is well improved and under excellent cultivation, proving to a close observer the fact that the owner is a man of sound judgment and intelligence.

Born in Hartford County, Conn., on the 21st of February, 1816, the subject of this sketch is the son of Rev. Amos B. and Melitable (Hathaway) Cobb, natives of Connecticut. The father, who was a man of broad knowledge and eloquence, served for many years in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church. About 1821 he removed to Massachusetts, where he resided for four years, and from there proceeded to New York, where he held a number of pastorates in various places. In 1831 he came to Michigan and became one of the earliest settlers of Lenawee County. During the following year he removed to Kalamazoo County and made settlement on Prairie Ronde, where his death occurred in December, 1876, at the age of eighty-six years. He was a man of strong character and possessed the perseverance and energy that had characterized his English ancestors. His wife also died at Prairie Ronde, passing away about 1855.

In the parental family there were five children:

Alonzo D., who served in the Black Hawk War; George N., of this sketch; Algernon; David, who died in Wilmington, Ill.; and Fannie, who passed away while residing in Iowa. The only surviving member of the family is the subject of this brief notice. He passed the years of childhood and youth beneath the parental roof, and was a mere lad when he gained a thorough familiarity with agricultural pursuits by laboring on his father's farm. At the age of twenty he commenced to work for himself, and for a time was in the employ of a farmer residing at Ionia, Mich. After working for him during two summer seasons, he returned to Prairie Ronde, where he stayed one winter.

From Michigan proceeding to Illinois, Mr. Cobb made the journey via Lake Michigan from St. Joseph to Chicago, and visited the latter city when it had a population of only eight thousand inhabitants. From there he went to Boone County, Ill., where he spent one year, working by the month at anything he could find to do. Next he removed to Wisconsin, where he spent about three years in the pineries, sixty miles from the nearest postoffice. Thence returning to Racine County, Wis., he stayed for ten years there, being occupied principally as a teamster between Milwaukee and Chicago.

Soon after the close of the Civil War, Mr. Cobb removed to northwestern Missouri, where he resided until 1869, engaged in farming pursuits. Coming to Michigan in the year above named, he traded some wild land in Wisconsin for forty-five acres in Muskegon County, of which about five acres had been improved. Through diligent exertions and untiring efforts, he has placed the principal part of his estate under excellent cultivation, and, although not the largest, it is conceded to be one of the best farms in Norton Township. Farming has been the principal occupation of his life, but he has also been otherwise engaged at various times. For fifteen years he managed and operated a box factory on the bank of Lake Harbor.

The marriage of Mr. Cobb occurred in the town of Texas, Kalamazoo County, Mich., in 1848, and united him with Miss Helen Tabor, who was born

in New York. She is the daughter of Abram and Eliza Tabor, early settlers of Kalamazoo County, both of whom resided there until death. Unto our subject and his wife there were born two children, one of whom, Lester G., is deceased. The only surviving child is Rush B., who is now master of a steamboat on Spring Lake. In politics Mr. Cobb has always been a strong adherent, first of the Whig party and later of the Republican. His father was also a strong Whig sympathizer and later became a Republican, but at the time of the nomination of Horace Greeley for the Presidency he changed his views and gave that famous Democrat his firm allegiance and his ballot. Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Henry Clay. He has served in a number of political capacities, and has been prominent in the public life of the community. For a time he represented his township on the County Board of Supervisors, and he has also officiated as Justice of the Peace. Socially, he has been a member of the Independent Order of Fellows at Kenosha, Wis., for many years.



**G**OVERT KEPPEL is numbered among the successful and efficient business men of Zeeland, where he has resided for many years. He is a native of the province of South Holland, and was born December 15, 1839, being the son of Huibert and Margaret (De Jong) Keppel. His paternal grandparents, Teunis and Jenneke Keppel, were also of Dutch birth and parentage. Huibert Keppel was born February 12, 1805, and grew to manhood in the land of his nativity. In 1847, accompanied by his family, he took passage on a vessel bound for America, but was shipwrecked and obliged to remain in England for nine weeks before the ship could pursue its onward course. Although he left Holland in October, he did not land in New Orleans until the 11th of the following April.

Having a brother in Keokuk, Iowa, Huibert Keppel proceeded up the Mississippi River to that point, and in May, 1848, came to Zeeland, Mich., where he purchased a yoke of oxen and eighty acres of land. In addition to farming interests, he also engaged extensively in buying and selling flour, meeting with considerable success in that undertaking. Politically, he is a Republican, and has served in numerous official capacities, among which may be mentioned that of member of the School Board. In the Reformed Church he occupied the position of Deacon for many years. He is a man of energy and high capabilities, and although he has met with many obstacles in life, success has crowned his well-directed efforts and he now occupies a prominent position among the citizens of his community.

Huibert Keppel has been three times married, and by his first union had nine children, six of whom survived to mature years: Kunder, whose death occurred in Zeeland; Teunis, who enlisted in the Thirteenth Michigan Infantry, and died in the Kalamazoo Hospital; Jenneke; Govert, Herbert, who died at the age of forty-three; and Dirk, who enlisted in Company D, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, and was killed on Wilmington Island, near the city of Savannah, April 16, 1862. The mother of these children died in Holland in 1841. She was a daughter of Govert De Jong, a hotel-keeper in that country. The second wife of Mr. Keppel was Dirkje Den Hertog, who died in Zeeland. The third wife was Mrs. Boar, who is now deceased.

After carrying on his studies in the district schools for a few years, our subject began to make his own way in the world, at the age of twelve. He remained in his father's employ until he was twenty-five, after which he engaged in the mercantile business in Zeeland for two years. Subsequent to this, he purchased an eighty-acre farm, where for four years he tilled the soil and successfully conducted agricultural pursuits. Upon disposing of his farm in 1872, he embarked in the milling business, and in 1877 purchased a one-third interest in the concern. Later he bought out the interests of his partners, and now owns the mill, which he has greatly improved and ren-







Respectfully Yours  
Nelson DeBony

dered more valuable by the introduction of the roller system.

In addition to the milling business, Mr. Keppel has other valuable interests in the village where he makes his home. He was one of the organizers of the furniture factory, in which he is now a stockholder. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and is now serving his fourth term as President of the village, in which capacity he has rendered excellent service to his fellow-citizens, and has been instrumental in introducing a number of needed improvements. As a member of the School Board, his labors have been effective in promoting a high grade of scholarship and in securing the teachers best qualified for the work of instruction.

June 26, 1865, Mr. Keppel was united in marriage with Miss Magdalena M., daughter of John and Magdalena M. (Muelendyk) De Pree. They were the parents of seven children, six of whom are living: Huiibert, John, Teunis, Magdalena M., Margaret and Allie. One child, Magdalena, died at the age of two years. The religious home of the family is in the Dutch Reformed Church. As the architect of his own fortune, having through energy and tireless effort secured a large measure of success, Mr. Keppel is deserving of the high regard in which he is held by all who know him, and is entitled to more than passing notice in enumerating the successful men of Ottawa County.



**H**ON. NELSON DE LONG. At the Bar of the State of Michigan many men have won brilliant triumphs, but none have attained a greater fame than that which a just recognition of his talents brings to Mr. De Long, who is conceded to be the ablest jury lawyer in central and western Michigan. To him belongs the distinction of having won a larger number of cases than any attorney in this part of the State. In addition to his professional labors, he has held with honor various local positions of trust, and has twice been chosen Mayor of Muske-

gon. As chief executive he vigorously promoted the interests of the city and made an enviable record, which, in connection with other qualities, has contributed to his popularity throughout the city and county.

A native of Michigan, our subject was born in Essex, Clinton County, November 6, 1848. His parents, Nelson and Lydia A. (Ayers) De Long, were widely known and highly esteemed in the Wolverine State. The father, an industrious man and upright citizen, was a farmer by occupation and a practical general agriculturist. Emigrating from the Empire State, he located in Clinton County, where he made his home until his death, in 1891. He came to Michigan a young man full of ambition and earnest purpose to win his way in life, and was successful in his vocation. A pioneer of Clinton County, he shared the privations of the early days, and, clearing, cultivating and improving the land, participated in the promotion of the farming interests of his adopted State. His beloved wife, daughter of John Ayers, entered into rest many years before her husband, passing away in 1874.

Our subject was the fourth of the seven children, of whom five yet survive. Reared upon the old homestead in Clinton County, he attended the public school of Essex and assisted his father in the care of the farm, devoting a large part of his time to agricultural pursuits until he had reached nineteen years, when he enjoyed the benefits of instruction in the Normal School at Maple Rapids. Having completed his studies in the latter well-known institution, he taught school for a time and then entered the law department of the State University at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated March 29, 1871. He then located in Maple Rapids and began the practice of his profession.

Succeeding as an advocate at the Bar, Mr. De Long likewise met with public favor, and was elected Justice of the Peace and also held the important position of Circuit Court Commissioner. In the month of August, 1873, he removed to Muskegon and opened an office for the general practice of law. In a brief time he entered into partnership with Joab Baker, under the firm name

of Baker & De Long, the partnership continuing until 1875, when Mr. Baker retired from the firm. Mr. De Long continued the practice of his profession alone until 1881, when he formed a partnership with William W. and Eugene Fellows, under the firm name of De Long, Fellows & Fellows. In the fall of 1876, he was chosen to fill the office of Prosecuting Attorney and served in that capacity for one term. In 1880 he was re-elected, holding the position until June, 1882, when he resigned. Forming a partnership with F. W. Cook and Eugene Fellows, under the firm title of Cook, De Long & Fellows, he conducted his practice in this connection until November 10, 1881.

In the spring of 1882, Mr. De Long made the race for Mayor on the laboring men's ticket against a prominent Democrat, who was nominated by the Republicans and Democrats. Notwithstanding this opposition, he was elected by the handsome majority of nine hundred and sixty-one votes. In 1883, he was re-elected chief executive of the city. He formed a law partnership with James O'Hara in 1887, and the firm continued until August, 1893. In 1887 he was prominently brought before the people as candidate for Circuit Judge, on the Democratic ticket, but, the district being overwhelmingly Republican, he suffered defeat. From 1889 to 1891, he served as Attorney of the city of Muskegon. In 1893 he was again nominated on the Democratic ticket for the position of Judge of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, composed of Muskegon and Oceana Counties, and his popularity at home is attested by the fact that he had a majority of nearly one thousand in Muskegon County. Oceana, however, contributing to his opponent's majority, secured the defeat of Mr. De Long.

June 27, 1872, occurred the marriage of Nelson De Long and Miss Jennie L. McCartney, an accomplished young lady residing in Maple Rapids, Mich., and the daughter of Robert and Lou (Webster) McCartney. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. De Long was Lyman Webster, a man of ability and high position. In February, 1890, Mrs. De Long departed this life, leaving one child, a daughter, Nina L., who resides with her father in

their beautiful home at No. 98 Rawson Street, Muskegon. Mr. De Long and his daughter occupy a position of distinction in social circles and enjoy the regard of their acquaintances.



**HON. DWIGHT CUTLER.** Every man in the United States, by birth or its equivalent, shares or is a share-owner in the glorious privileges of our Government to forge through the ranks of the many and become one of the few. A man who possesses the ability to do this, who by years of patient toil and unswerving loyalty to truth and integrity forces his way through the multitudes of others equally as ambitious and determined, and wrests from the world a meed of victory, does not need a piece of academic parchment, learnedly inscribed, to make his life valuable to the community in which he lives, for by his sterling methods and his high moral purpose he has become a leading factor in the conservatism of the good government of his community and a valuable example to those whose efforts in human progress have just begun. Such a man is Hon. Dwight Cutler, President of the First National Bank of Grand Haven, and one of the most prominent business men of that thriving city.

Mr. Cutler is a product of the old Bay State, born in Amherst, November 14, 1830, and is the son of Dr. Isaac G. and Nancy (Hastings) Cutler. Great-grandfather Cutler was a native of Wales, but came to America at an early date, and his grandson was one of the first settlers of Amherst, Mass., where he and his wife passed the remainder of their days. Dr. Cutler was one of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of his day, and his extensive practice continued until his death, in 1834, when our subject was but four years of age. Mrs. Cutler's father was one of the first settlers of Amherst, Mass., and was a man of considerable prominence.

The original of this notice received his scholastic

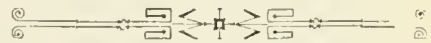
training in Williston Seminary, Easthampton, Mass., and took a special course of instruction. When about eighteen years of age he made his way to Grand Haven, Mich., and entered the employ of Gilbert & Co., forwarding and commission merchants, continuing with that company for three years and meeting with unusual success. During that period he purchased a number of vessels, both sail and steam, that were used in connection with his business. In 1860 Mr. Cutler commenced the lumber manufacturing business with Hunter Savidge, of Spring Lake, a village two miles distant from New Haven, and bought a sawmill known as the old Hopkins Mill. Since then Mr. Cutler and his partner have bought one mill, built another, and formed a stock company with a paid capital of \$500,000. This is the largest lumber manufacturing firm in western Michigan. They handle upwards of one hundred million feet of lumber in one season, but average about forty million annually.

This firm had large wholesale lumber yards in Michigan City, Indianapolis and South Bend, Ind., and in Detroit, Mich., and they ship their lumber to almost all parts of the United States, while their mills and lumber interests give employment to over five hundred men most of the year. They own extensive tracts of pine land tributary to Grand River. In 1872 Mr. Cutler erected the largest and finest hotel building in the State of Michigan. It stands on Washington Street, in Grand Haven, is an ornament to the city, and is known abroad as a Grand Haven summer resort. It was named for himself, being called the Cutler House, and cost, including furniture, etc., \$200,000. The architecture of the building is most beautiful, defying criticism, and the inner appointments are excellent. The same year Mr. Cutler, with others, organized the First National Bank of that city, and held his connection with the same for twenty years. The charter expiring, he helped to organize the National Bank of Grand Haven and was made President, which position he has held since. This is one of the solid institutions of the State of Michigan and is located in the Cutler Block. During 1870 and 1871 Mr. Cutler held the office of Mayor of Grand Haven and discharged the

duties of that important position in a most efficient manner. He has filled the office of School Trustee for nearly twenty years, but has never aspired, however, to the honors of public position, having declined to accept any of the State or national offices his friends proffered him.

In politics, our subject is independent, voting for the man, irrespective of party, and his religious views are embodied in the faith of the Unitarian Church, of which he is a worthy member. He is public-spirited in the highest degree and takes a deep interest in national, State and county affairs, and every effort tending to the enhancement of the public welfare has his unqualified support. He is now sixty-three years of age, in the full enjoyment of health, and has been a resident of Grand Haven many years, during which time he has identified himself with every worthy enterprise, his brilliant mental qualities fitting him in an admirable manner to lead whenever he so desired.

Mr. Cutler was married on the 10th of February, 1858, to Miss Frances E. Slayton, of Stowe, Vt., and five children have been given them: Millicent S.; Esther P., wife of John N. Bagley, of Detroit, Mich.; Dwight, Frances and Mary. During his first year in Michigan Mr. Cutler received \$50 and his board, but his splendid business acumen brought him to the front, and he is now one of the prominent capitalists and representative business men of the State.



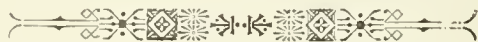
**H**ON. DANIEL UPTON, Sr., deceased, a highly esteemed pioneer settler of Michigan, who throughout a long career of honored usefulness in the Wolverine State held with efficiency and integrity high positions of trust, passed to his rest at Muskegon Heights June 30, 1893, mourned as a public loss. Born in Newburg, Dutchess County, N. Y., August 27, 1818, our subject was only seventeen years of age when, a bright ambitious youth, he came with his parents to Jackson, Mich., and from 1835 until

his demise, a period of almost three-score years, was as a leading citizen intimately associated with the development of the great West. His father, Samuel Upton, a native of Providence, R. I., survived his removal to Michigan many years, passing away about a quarter of a century later, upon January 3, 1860. He was a man of upright character and steadfast purpose and commanded the high regard of all who knew him. The paternal grandfather, also Samuel Upton, was a long-time resident of Rhode Island, making his home for many years in Providence. The Uptons were originally subjects of Great Britain, but emigrated from England to the United States in an early period of our Colonial history. The mother, in maidenhood Charlotte Frost, born in Westchester County, N. Y., was the descendant of a long line of English forefathers, the Frosts settling in New England not long after the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers.

Our subject passed the days of childhood in his birthplace, and received a good common-school education in the home district. His father was at one time a prominent woolen manufacturer, and acquired a comfortable competence. The Hon. Daniel Upton, Sr., from 1859 to 1866 was widely known as the popular County Clerk of Jackson County, and in 1866 was elected to the Legislature, being sent from the second district of Jackson County to the House of Representatives, where he served on important committees and faithfully discharged the duties entrusted to him by his constituents. In the fall of 1867 our subject left his long-time home in Jackson, Mich., and permanently located in Muskegon, where for a twelvemonth he engaged in merchandising. Later he here conducted an extensive and profitable real-estate business, continuing in the same until his death. He had for many years been an expert on values of both inside and outside property, and in all matters of local improvement was animated with enthusiastic enterprise until the close of his life. In June, 1891, upon the organization and building of Muskegon Heights, he accepted the position as Clerk of the Heights, and with rare ability transacted every detail of the business devolving upon him until smitten by mortal illness.

From 1876 until 1880, Mr. Upton rendered most satisfactory decisions as Justice of the Peace and Police Judge of Muskegon, and efficiently holding this position as he did the other offices with which the public honored him, possessed the universal regard of his fellow-citizens.

Upon November 2, 1848, were united in marriage Daniel Upton and Miss Mary E. Strong. The latter was born in Lansing, Tompkins County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Edward and Harriet A. (Egan) Strong, the former a native of Tompkins County, N. Y. Her mother was a native of Johnstown, Fulton County, N. Y. Our subject and his worthy wife became the parents of two sons and one daughter. Edward S., the eldest-born, is a citizen of Lake Harbor, Mich.; Daniel, Jr., resides in Muskegon; Cornelia C. is the wife of Charles Pett, of Fernandina, Nassau County, Fla. Mrs. Upton, surviving, is a member of the Episcopal Church, but our subject, clinging to the simple form of worship maintained by his ancestors, was an Orthodox Quaker, a devout Christian man, whose rule of life was to do unto others as he desired them to do unto him. A true friend in the hour of need, a citizen of high principle and fidelity, the memory of the Hon. Daniel Upton will long be precious in the hearts of the many who knew and loved him.



**W**ILLIAM H. STEVENSON, Postmaster at Fruitport, is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., and was born near the city of Syracuse, July 31, 1830. He traces his ancestry to one of three brothers who emigrated to America in company with William Penn and settled in Pennsylvania, where the descendants for many generations resided. The family was prominent in the Society of Friends, and possessed the noble traits of character noticeable among the Quakers.

The father of our subject, William Stevenson, was born in New Jersey, and emigrating to New York when a young man spent his remaining years

in that State, dying in Cayuga County. His wife, whose maiden name was Sophia Clark, was born in the Empire State and died in Illinois, whither she had gone with the intention of making her home with a son and daughter. Her remains were taken back to New York and interred in the old cemetery where several other members of the family had been laid to rest. She was the mother of five sons and two daughters, all but one of whom are still living.

The fourth in order of birth is the subject of this sketch. A child of two years when his parents removed to Cayuga County, N. Y., he was there reared to manhood, receiving his primary education in the common schools and afterward attending the Auburn Academy and the school at Aurora. On the 30th of November, 1859, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Smith, who was born in Port Byron, N. Y., being a daughter of Walter H. and Nancy Smith. Our subject and his estimable wife are the parents of two sons and two daughters, namely: Augustus W.; William Clifton; Anna B., the wife of Charles D. Collins, a resident of Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Jessie H., who is at home.

During the late war no resident of Auburn, N. Y., was more active than our subject in arousing the enthusiasm of every patriotic son of America in our country's behalf. In 1861 he assisted in raising Company B, Seventy-fifth New York Infantry, of which he was chosen First Lieutenant. With the assistance of another gentleman he raised the Tenth Company, which he organized for service in the Union army. Indeed, he was so successful in securing recruits that he was sent back after going to the front in order to raise another company, and of this, upon organization, he was made Captain, serving in that capacity for about twelve months. Finally he was compelled to resign on account of poor health, after having very nearly suffered the loss of his sight. He participated in the bombardments of Ft. Pickens, being temporary commander of the company at the time.

During the year 1869 Mr. Stevenson emigrated from New York to Michigan, and, coming to Muskegon County, located in what is now Fruitport,

having previously purchased a large tract of land here. Afterward he disposed of the major part of his possessions to what is known as the Fruitport Company, although he still retains the ownership of valuable property. He has witnessed the growth of the village and has been closely identified with its progress. In 1887 he was appointed Postmaster under the administration of President Cleveland, and served throughout the entire period of President Harrison's administration and is still the incumbent of the office. A number of years since he was appointed Township Supervisor, and in 1890 was elected to that position; he has been re-elected each succeeding year and is the present representative of the township upon the County Board. Always an ardent Democrat, his first Presidential vote was cast for Franklin Pierce in 1852, and he has since upheld the principles advocated by the Democratic party. In religious matters he leans to the Congregational Church, of which his wife is a member.



GEORGE T. HITCHCOCK, the popular and efficient Superintendent of Lake Michigan Park, Muskegon, Mich., is especially well adapted to meet the demands of the public position which he occupies with intelligent ability and a practical knowledge, clearly indicating that he is the right man for the place, and insuring to the city the proper management and supervision of one of the most charming garden spots of the State. Our subject is a native of Ireland, and was born in County Wexford March 10, 1815. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Hitchcock, by nativity an Englishman, when arrived at mature age removed to Ireland, where, remaining until his death, he reared to self-reliant usefulness his son and namesake, Thomas, the father of our subject. Thomas Hitchcock, Jr., born, educated and married in the Emerald Isle, was a man of earnest purpose, energetic and enterprising, and finally determined to try his fortune in the United States. Crossing the

ocean and landing safely upon American shores, he journeyed to Michigan and settled in Muskegon County, where he passed peacefully away after a long life of busy industry, in 1887. The mother, Ann (Keerfud) Hitchcock, likewise a native of Ireland, emigrated with her husband and family to America, and died in 1885, in Muskegon County.

Our subject, spending the days of early boyhood in Ireland, there attended the common schools, and had arrived at thirteen years of age when he crossed the broad Atlantic with his parents, and, eight and a-half weeks upon the voyage, safely landed at last in Quebec, Canada. After settling with his father and mother in Muskegon County, George enjoyed the benefit of instruction in the excellent public schools of his home locality, and at a comparatively youthful age self-reliantly beginning the battle of life, found occupation in a sawmill, and for ten consecutive years ran a mill for the firm of Ryerson & Hill. Our subject at the expiration of this length of time embarked in the hotel business in Newaygo, and later successfully conducted a grocery trade in the same town for three years. In 1875 Mr. Hitchcock made Muskegon his permanent home, and not long after became Superintendent of the S. C. Hall Lumber Company, and held the responsible position for six years, giving faithful and intelligent service. In 1890 our subject was appointed Superintendent of Lake Park, and has full supervision of the work and improvements connected therewith.

In 1869 George T. Hitchcock and Miss Fannie Bradley were united in marriage. She is a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of John Bradley, likewise born in Connecticut, and the descendant of a long line of honored New England ancestry. The union of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the birth of one child, a daughter, Margaret, an accomplished and attractive young lady, now the wife of Clarence Power. Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock reside in a beautiful home pleasantly located at No. 230 Beach Street, Muskegon. Our subject is fraternally associated with the Maccabees, and affiliates with Tent No. 56. Politically, a strong Republican and an ardent advocate of the party, Mr. Hitchcock has neither

time nor inclination to devote himself to the cares of public office, but, a true American citizen, is deeply interested in both local and national issues, and in all matters pertaining to home enterprise and progress is ever ready to lend a helping hand. Mr. Hitchcock and his wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**H**ON. WILLIAM H. MCKINSTRY, Representative from the First District of Muskegon County, and one of the most prominent members of the State Legislature, was born in Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, Mich., on the 1st of July, 1852. His parents, Hugh and Sophia (Clare) McKinstry, were natives respectively of Ireland and London, England, the latter being a daughter of Edward Clare. Emigrating to America, they sojourned in Canada for a short time, and thence removed to the United States, making settlement in Washtenaw County, Mich., in the city of Ypsilanti.

In his boyhood our subject was a pupil in the public schools of Battle Creek, and afterward attended the High School in the same place. Upon leaving school, he learned the trade of a cigar-maker, in which he was engaged for some time in various places in the State. His marriage occurred on the 21st of October, 1874, and united him with Miss Delia, daughter of Charles G. Williams, a prominent citizen of Kalamazoo. Mrs. McKinstry was educated in Kalamazoo, and is an accomplished and cultured lady, who has ever been a faithful helpmate to her husband and his counselor in every undertaking.

For many years Mr. McKinstry has been closely identified with the public affairs of the city and county, where he has resided since 1886. In politics an ardent Democrat, he is one of the leaders of his party in this section of the State, and also takes an active part in State and national politics. In 1891 he was appointed financial and reading



clerk in the State Legislature, and was re-elected during the following year. He was chosen in 1892 as Representative from his district for the House, and is still serving in that capacity.

Mr. McKinstry is especially active in all measures pertaining to labor organization, and took an important and prominent part in the discussion of the Congressional appointment and the re-districting of the State of Michigan. He was the candidate on the Labor ticket, and was elected largely by the Labor vote. For the past twenty-three years he has been an earnest advocate of labor organization, and a member of the Cigar-makers' International Union. For several terms he has served as President of the Trades and Labor Council.

As a citizen, Mr. McKinstry is progressive and public-spirited, and maintains a constant interest in every enterprise calculated to promote the welfare of his fellow-citizens. He is liberal in his views, keen in judgment, and firm in his convictions; altogether, one who would attain prominence in any community. He and his wife have established a pleasant home in Muskegon, and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. They are the parents of one child, a daughter, Sophia May, in whose education and training they take the warmest interest.



**W**ILLIAM McCOMB, a leading photographer and successful business man, long located in Muskegon, Mich., and a genuine artist, enjoying a large and rapidly extending patronage, gives general satisfaction to his custom, and in his style and finish of work is second to none in the State. Mr. McComb is a native of Canada, and was born in Toronto August 28, 1844. His parents, James and Ann (Thompson) McComb, were born and reared in Ireland, and, the descendants of a long line of honored and useful ancestry, received excellent educations in their

native land, where they attained a mature age. Young, ambitious and enterprising, they early resolved to emigrate to America, and later made their permanent home in Canada. The father, a man of means and superior business ability, entered into mercantile pursuits, and, prosperous in his venture, amassed a comfortable competence. While our subject was yet but a young lad, the devoted father and affectionate husband passed away, entering into rest in the year 1858. The mother, surviving about seventeen years, and a woman of earnest purpose and high character, died in Ottawa, Canada, in 1875, mourned by all who knew her. She was the daughter of James Thompson, a man of broad intelligence, respected for his qualities as a man and citizen.

Our subject was the ninth in a family of ten sons and daughters, of whom but four now survive. During his early childhood, Mr. McComb attended the common schools of his home locality, but later learned the profession of photography, in which he is now an adept. He acquired his training in art in Ottawa, Canada, and studied under the most skillful artists of the Dominion. In 1878, determined to try his fortune in the States, our subject journeyed to Michigan, and located in Muskegon. He opened a gallery at No. 19 W. Western Avenue, which he fitted up in the latest and most approved style, and in his studio uses the modern appliances and the newest inventions for the exact reproduction of the face and figure. To the public Mr. McComb offers a choice variety of photographs, varying in size and prices, and is now making some of the finest life-size pictures ever shown in Muskegon or the county. That he has been fully appreciated by the citizens of Muskegon is evident from the number of familiar faces of people of note to be seen at various times in his gallery, as well as through the cabinets sent to friends far and near. From the first of his establishment here our subject met with gratifying success, and as the time passes his reputation as an artist especially successful in posing brings him a new and large variety of custom.

In the year 1861 were united in marriage William McComb and Miss Ellen Walker, an estimable and accomplished young lady of Ottawa, Canada,

and daughter of James Walker, a lifetime resident of the Dominion. Our subject, fraternally associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, is a Knight Templar and a member of the Consistory and Mystic Shrine of Grand Rapids. The family residence is pleasantly located at No. 115 Peck Street, in one of the most desirable portions of the city. Mr. and Mrs. McComb occupy a social position of influence, and have made many friends in their adopted home, where our subject is now numbered among the prominent business men and substantial citizens.



**W**ILLIAM A. ROW. Few citizens of Muskegon County are more widely known, and none are more highly esteemed, than the subject of this sketch, who is familiarly known as "Squire" Row. He is the owner of an eighty-acre farm located on section 14, White River Township, and which, through his efforts during the comparatively brief period of his residence thereon, has been embellished with a number of desirable and valuable improvements. Sixty acres of the place have been cleared and are now under excellent cultivation, yielding each year a bountiful harvest of golden grain.

The parents of our subject, Sebastian H. and Clarinda (Lewis) Row, resided for some time in the township of Windom, Dutchess County, N. Y., where the father followed the trade of a carpenter and joiner. The mother died in Livingston County, N. Y., and her remains now lie buried in the woods. By a subsequent marriage of Sebastian H. Row six children were born, of whom only one now survives: Clarinda, wife of Owen D. Rodgers, of Indiana, and the mother of three children. The only survivor of the children born to the first marriage is the subject of this notice, whose birth occurred in Windom Township, Dutchess County, N. Y., July 13, 1826.

When a mere lad our subject accompanied his father to Livingston County, N. Y., the removal

being made with ox-teams, and settlement being made in Portage Township, where the senior Mr. Row erected the first log house ever built in the township. At the age of seventeen years William A. accompanied his father to Indiana and settled in Whitley County, upon an unimproved tract of land. At the age of twenty he returned to New York and there engaged in farming, threshing, etc. On the 19th of October, 1848, he married Caroline Elizabeth Hewitt, who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., August 25, 1829, being a daughter of James B. Hewitt, a farmer of that county.

In 1866 Mr. Row removed from Livingston County, N. Y., to Michigan and settled in White River Township, Muskegon County, at the mouth of White Lake. For several years he was employed in a sawmill, after which he located on his present farm, in 1887. His first wife died April 28, 1877, and two of their five children are also deceased. The others are: James Henry, who has been twice married and is the father of one child by his first union; Mary, wife of Frank Coleman, of Montague; and Ella A., who married William Hawks, of White River Township.

May 11, 1878, our subject married Miss Libbie M. Gilbert, who was born in Canada March 4, 1841. She is the daughter of William and Sarah (Sloan) Gilbert, natives respectively of England and Scotland. They were married in Nova Scotia, and in 1861 came to Michigan, settling in Newwaygo, where Mr. Gilbert engaged in the wheelwright business. Thence he came to Muskegon and settled at Clay Bank, where his death occurred. His wife is also deceased, having passed away in 1863. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom the following survive: Mrs. Thursa Rose, Mrs. Ellen Dean, Thomas, Charles, Robert and Mrs. Row. The last-named grew to womanhood in Canada, whence she removed with her parents to Michigan.

Socially, Mr. Row is identified with the Patrons of Industry and has served as President of that organization. He is interested in educational matters and has given his children excellent opportunities for acquiring liberal educations, and they have all taught school. While holding the

various school offices, he has been enabled to render efficient service in behalf of the educational interests of this district. He was Postmaster at the "Mouth" for ten years, and carried the mail from there to the village of Montague. Politically a Republican, he has always taken an active interest in politics and has frequently served as delegate to county conventions. For two years he filled the office of Township Treasurer, and has also served as Highway Commissioner of White River Township and as Justice of the Peace almost ever since locating here. In 1878 he was elected Supervisor and served for nine years consecutively in that capacity.



**D**O. WATSON. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch belongs to that noble army of self-made men who have fought the battle of life bravely. He is now not only well-to-do financially, but occupies an enviable position in the estimation of all who have the honor of his acquaintance. As United States Collector of Customs for the District of Michigan, with headquarters at Grand Haven, he is the incumbent of a position for which he is admirably adapted. He was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., April 10, 1859, and is the son of William G. and Betsey J. (Rushton) Watson, natives of the Empire State.

In 1867 the parents of our subject took up their abode in Michigan at Coopersville, Ottawa County, where the father invested some of his means in a stock of merchandise, and until his death, which occurred in the spring of 1888, he conducted a successful and remunerative business. His widow survived him only one year, her death occurring in 1889. The principal characteristics of Mr. Watson were extreme kind-heartedness and strict commercial integrity. In Coopersville, where he spent his best days, he enjoyed the confidence, unqualified respect and steadfast friendship of the many to whom his virtues, his integrity, and his high-minded, honorable manliness commended him.

D. O. Watson is the second member of a family consisting of three sons and one daughter. His early instruction was such as the public schools of Coopersville afforded, but he afterwards finished his literary education at Lansing, Mich., pursuing his studies there for three years with great industry. He thus acquired an excellent education. He was a young man who read and thought, studied and applied, and upon his return to Coopersville he put his knowledge to a good use in his father's store. After the death of his father he succeeded to the business, buying out the interest of the other heirs, since which time he has been so intimately connected with the mercantile industries of the town, so thoroughly alive to the necessity of building up a reliable house, complete in all its departments, that he has become an integral part of the mercantile life of his section.

Pre-eminently a man of affairs, the thorough business methods of Mr. Watson made him a suitable person for the responsible position of Collector of Customs of Michigan, to which position he was appointed by Grover Cleveland in 1885. He filled the office until March 2, 1889, when he retired on account of the change of administration. On the 2d of April, 1893, he was again appointed to the position by President Cleveland, assuming the duties of the office April 26, 1893, and since that time he has made his headquarters at Grand Haven. He has taken an active part in local and State politics and for the past four years has been Chairman of the Ottawa County Democratic Committee. He has also been Chairman of the Fifth Congressional District Committee, and has often been a delegate to Congressional, State and other conventions.

In 1880 Mr. Watson wooed and won for his wife Miss Winnie Walsh, of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, Mich., a daughter of Martin Walsh, a successful merchant and an extensive fruit-grower. This union has resulted in the birth of two interesting children, Melvin A. and Margaret E. During the hot summer months Mr. Watson and his family retire to their comfortable cottage on the banks of Spring Lake, where they enjoy the freedom of out-door life. In looking over the events of Mr. Watson's life one cannot help dwelling

upon its fair record, and around his name and reputation cluster all the manly virtues, truth, candor and benevolence. He is a model husband and father, kind and generous in his family, and as a citizen and friend it is a privilege to know and a pleasure to honor him.



**C**APT. WILLIAM MEES, a retired lake captain, who is now enjoying a well-earned rest after years of arduous toil at his home in Muskegon, was born in Somersetshire, England, on the 18th of June, 1826. His parents, William and Fannie F. (Baker) Mees, were also natives of England. The father served in the British navy for the long period of twenty-four years, and at length emigrated to Canada, where his death occurred.

Capt. Mees, whose name heads this record, was a lad of only eight summers when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to Canada, landing in Quebec. The father was also a contractor of canal building and was engaged on the construction of the St. Lawrence Canal. Our subject's connection with the Lakes dates from his fourteenth year, when he went with his father to Chicago and secured a position as cook on the schooner "Drift," which plied on Lake Michigan between St. Joseph and Chicago, and was commanded by Capt. William Dongan. Capt. Mees sailed on the Lakes until 1892, and rose successively step by step until he became captain. The first vessel he sailed out of Chicago was the "Henry Clay," in 1818. In 1849, he was captain of the "Gen. Warren," which he ran for two seasons, and later the brig "T. W. Morris" two seasons. He then moved to Muskegon, in 1851, and entered the employ of Ryerson & Morris and sailed the schooner "Roberts," being in their employ steamboating and sailing for about ten years.

Later he resumed business on his own account, buying a small steamboat, which he ferried across

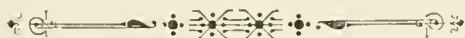
Muskegon Lake, being so engaged about two years, when he built the passenger steamer "Pony," which was also put into commission as a ferry boat. He afterward sold the above two boats and then built the tug "Gettie" in connection with Capt. Tom Walters.

In 1873 he sold the "Gettie" and went to Green Bay and bought the steamer "Annie," which he took up to Pine Lake and ran between Charlevoix and East Jordan for four seasons, and being desirous of selling the "Annie," he took her to New Orleans, via Chicago and the Illinois Canal and Illinois River, and disposed of her to advantage. In the following summer he became superintendent of the Muskegon Booming Company's floating stock and was so engaged about six years. He was then engaged as captain of the "Ira O. Smith" up to 1891, his practical retirement from the steamboat business dating from that year. He has held papers as a pilot and captain for thirty-six years, but his whole experience on the Lakes runs back to 1842. He is among the oldest lake captains living.

In January, 1848, Capt. Mees was united in marriage with Miss Winnifred White, a native of Boston, Mass., who died June 11, 1888, mourned by many friends. Eleven children were born of that union, but only three are now living, as follows: Mary, now the wife of Charles Brown, a resident of Chicago; Eliza, who resides in Lansing, Mich., where she is employed in the State Auditor's office; and Winnifred, wife of Robert Foster, who resides in Muskegon.

On the 18th of November, 1843, during a severe storm, Capt. Mees was wrecked off the coast of South Haven, while sailing on the schooner "Liberty." Making his way to the shore, he walked through two feet of snow to St. Joseph, a distance of twenty miles. He met with a number of hardships during his life on the Lakes, yet altogether was very successful in escaping wrecks and injury. Since 1892 he has lived retired and his rest is well deserved. In politics, he votes with the Democratic party and is a staunch advocate of its measures. Socially, he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M. The Captain is widely

known throughout this community and has a large circle of friends and acquaintances, who esteem him highly for his sterling worth and the many excellencies of his character. He is an interesting conversationalist, having many entertaining stories to tell of his life as a sailor.



**J**OSHUA DAVIES was born in Sidney County, Me., in January, 1818, and died at his home in Muskegon on the 14th of February, 1885, at the age of sixty-seven years, respected by all who knew him. His father, Charles Davies, who was also a native of the Pine Tree State, was a highly educated man, and was quite prominent in public affairs.

Our subject spent a portion of his boyhood in the county of his nativity, and afterward went to Massachusetts, locating in Lowell. There he acquired his education in the common schools, and later started out in life for himself by working in a cotton mill. On leaving Lowell he went to Springfield, Mass., where he was employed in a cotton mill for some time. He was a man of industrious and frugal habits, and as the result of his economy and enterprise in his early years, he acquired sufficient capital to begin business for himself. On coming to the West, he took up his residence in Kenosha, Wis., where he established and built a foundry and machine shops. On the 11th of November, 1858, he came to Muskegon and established the Davies Iron Works, in company with Mr. Emerson. This partnership continued for a year, after which our subject bought out Mr. Emerson's interest and conducted the business alone until his death. He built up an excellent trade, and on account of the liberal patronage which he received his business proved a profitable one.

Mr. Davies was united in marriage with Miss Sarah N. Gay in Killingly, Conn. She is a native of Washington, N. H., and a daughter of Abner Gay, who was born in Dedham, Mass. Her mo-

ther bore the maiden name of Anna Warren, and was a daughter of Daniel Warren, who was born in the old Granite State. The Gay family is of English origin, and probably was founded in America in early Colonial days. Mrs. Davies acquired her education in Massachusetts. Four children were born of the union of our subject and his wife, three of whom are still living, two sons and a daughter: Genevieve, wife of Lyman Patten, of Muskegon; Squire V., who is Secretary and Treasurer of the Davies Iron Works; and Reed S., who is now living in Chicago.

In politics, Mr. Davies was a pronounced Republican, a staunch advocate of the party, for he believed in its principles and in protection for American industries. When called to his final rest his loss was mourned throughout the community. Through his successful business career he was enabled to leave his widow in comfortable circumstances. She still resides at No. 194 Clay Avenue, and is a highly esteemed lady.



**D**AVID MILNE. No name is more familiarly known in Ottawa County than that of Milne, and it is so thoroughly interwoven with its history that a work of this character would be incomplete without frequent reference to some member of the family. The man from New York State has always been a potential element in the civilization and development of Michigan. No better blood was ever infused into pioneer life; no sturdier arm ever set about the task of subduing the wilderness; and no less vigorous mental activity could have made the State of Michigan what it is. Mr. David Milne is one of the oldest settlers of Allendale Township and a man who, by his upright, honorable career, has won the respect and esteem of all.

This worthy representative of the old settlers first saw the light of day in Tompkins County, N. Y., his birth occurring March 24, 1839. He was the only living child born to the union of Alex-

ander and Margaret (Scott) Milne, both natives of Scotland, he of Aberdeenshire and she of Haddingtonshire. Alexander Milne was one of a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, and was the first of the family to come to America, although all of them except one are now on this side of the Atlantic. He settled in Michigan in 1845, but previous to that had resided for some time in New York, and was there married to Miss Scott, who had crossed the ocean with her mother and four brothers a short time before. At the above mentioned date he came to Allendale Township and purchased forty acres of land on section 22, paying for the same \$2.50 per acre. The farm at that time was covered with heavy timber and he began at once to clear it and build a house, moving into the same in the fall of 1846. At this time only three families resided in the township besides our subject: Richard Roberts, John Hanna and Ephraim Pierson. Coming to this township with our subject were Alexander Scott, James Scott and their mother and sister. These industrious, enterprising pioneers went actively to work to subdue the wilderness and make fame and fortune for themselves. Later the brothers and sisters of our subject came over and settled in Michigan.

When Mr. Milne first settled in the township, the nearest gristmill was at Grand Rapids, and the settlers took their grists there in skiffs, dugouts, steamers, boats, etc., on the river, daily trips being made there. The first year Mr. Milne and the Scott boys took a large whitewood tree and formed it into a canoe. This was two and a-half feet wide and twenty-six feet long, and in it they could carry a large cargo of provisions either from Grand Haven or Grand Rapids, both places being accessible. While clearing his land of the timber Mr. Milne made quite a number of shingles each year for three or four years, and then turned his attention almost exclusively to farming, continuing this until the time of his death. He was then the owner of ninety-seven acres, with forty-five acres well improved. He only resided on the first farm he purchased for nineteen years, and then, selling out, moved down on Grand River, where he improved another farm. This he sold in 1882

and moved on the place where he received his final summons, which consisted of sixty-one acres on section 27. He was in his seventy-second year. His wife had passed away in 1869.

Mr. Milne was elected Township Treasurer in 1851, and served as Justice of the Peace two terms of four years each in succession. In 1855 he was elected Supervisor of this township and was re-elected five years in succession. After his last term as Supervisor he was again elected to the office of Township Treasurer, which position he held for four or five years. This was from 1860 to 1865. Later on in life he was appointed Township Treasurer, in the early portion of the winter, and at the election following was again elected and held that position for two or three years. He and wife were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and were among the first Methodists in this portion of Michigan. They brought their church letters from New York and were instrumental in forming the first Methodist Episcopal Church in Allendale. In the church records their names appear among the first. At the organization only seven persons joined: Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Comfort, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Milne, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Balcom and Miss Lucy J. Speer. Mr. Balcom was the last of this band of pilgrims to pass away, and many remember with pride his efforts to elevate the condition of the new country. Mr. Milne was for some time the Sabbath-school Superintendent, but he only remained with the Methodist Episcopal Church for ten years, and then joined the Wesleyan Methodist, in which he was a Class-leader for a number of years and held other positions.

David Milne received the principal part of his education in Allendale Township, and then for two terms attended Adrian College. Being the only child, he remained with his parents during their lives and was engaged with his father in agricultural pursuits. Like his father, he has always followed that occupation, but in connection has been engaged in other occupations, principally teaching school throughout the county. He was first elected to office in the township in 1861, being made School Inspector, and this office he held for four years. This position he has filled by election

several times since. In 1867 he was elected Justice of the Peace, holding this position for four years, and before his term had expired he was elected Supervisor for one year. In 1876 he was elected Township Clerk. Since 1870 he has filled the office of Justice of the Peace two years, having been appointed to fill a vacancy.

Miss Julia A. Stone, who became his wife on the 8th of October, 1867, was a native of the Empire State and the daughter of William W. and Sarah L. (French) Stone, natives respectively of Massachusetts and New York. Both families are of English parentage. The Stone family came to America previous to the Revolutionary War, and the great-grandfather fought bravely for independence. Mr. Stone went from Massachusetts to New York when fifteen years of age and came to Michigan in 1855. He was a farmer, and on settling in this county carried on his chosen occupation with success. He and wife were the parents of only two children, Julia and James O., of this township. Mrs. Stone died in 1852, in New York, and in 1864 Mr. Stone was married to Mrs. Jane Jessup, *nee* Beard. Mr. Stone passed away in 1891, when seventy years of age. He was a member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and in politics was a Republican.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Milne were working members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, he having been a member of the same since 1867 and she since 1891. Until recently he was a Class-leader in his church and he takes a deep interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare and good of the church. He has been Church Clerk since 1876, when the church was built, and for quite a number of years was Trustee of the church. In 1879 he was licensed as a local minister and has been recommended to the Michigan Annual Conference as a local traveling minister. He has been a delegate from this circuit to the annual conference of his church three or four times, and attended the meeting in Grand Rapids in 1876, Allendale in 1878, Pittsford in 1885, and Romulus in 1890. Mrs. Milne also takes a deep interest in her church and is an earnest Christian worker, one who tries to follow the teachings of the Golden Rule. Since 1879 she has labored in the Sabbath-school and

has rarely missed a Sabbath, winter or summer. She is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and was a delegate at Holland in 1889, and at Sparta in 1892. She is also Secretary of the Ladies' Aid Society. Mrs. Milne is a lady of intelligence and culture and for three years was a very successful teacher in Ottawa County. For quite a number of years Mr. Milne was a leading Republican, but for many years he has voted the Prohibition ticket, and is an active worker in the cause of temperance.



**T**ALMAGE P. COWLES, Clerk of Laketon Township and a successful farmer of Muskegon County, was born in Delaware County, Ohio, July 9, 1842. He is a son of Joel Cowles, an old settler of Laketon Township and one of its most honored citizens, whose long and useful career has been characterized by probity, energy and industry, and who now, in his advanced years, lives somewhat retired from active labors. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., August 28, 1806, and was a son of Joel Cowles, a native of Connecticut and farmer by occupation. Grandfather Cowles was the youngest child of the family, and served sixteen days in the Colonial army at the close of the War of the Revolution. Grandmother Cowles bore the maiden name of Susanna Phelps and was a native of Connecticut, where she was reared to womanhood in the town of Windsor.

The youngest of eight children, Joel Cowles, Jr., was about nine years of age when he left New York and located in Delaware County, Ohio. There, in 1837, he married Miss Priscilla Smith, a native of New York, who died after becoming the mother of six children. They were: Delzon, Melvin and Edward, all of whom are deceased; Elmer, who resides in St. Joseph, Mich.; Talmage, the subject of this sketch; and Esther, the wife of Daniel Jenkins, of St. Joseph, this State. The second marriage of Joel Cowles united him with Miss Elizabeth Wilkins, who was born in Guernsey County, Ohio. They

are the parents of four children: Emeline, wife of George King; Minnie, who married Laughlin Burns; Lottie, the widow of Theodore Aley; and Bell, who is now in Chicago.

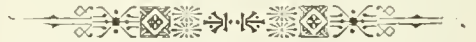
After his first marriage, Mr. Cowles located in Delaware County, Ohio, whence he later removed to Indiana, and from there to St. Joseph County, Mich. In 1863, he came to Muskegon County and located in Laketon Township, where he has since resided. He entered the land from the Government and now enjoys the distinction of being the oldest settler in the township. He built a small house soon after settling on the place, and then cleared and improved the land. He now owns one hundred and thirty acres, although at one time he had more in his possession. Politically, he is a Republican and cast his first Presidential ballot for John Q. Adams; he also voted for W. H. Harrison in 1840, and for Benjamin F. Harrison in 1892. He has voted the straight Republican ticket ever since attaining his majority, and has voted at every Presidential election, with two exceptions.

Talmage P. Cowles, the subject of this sketch, was the fourth in a family of six children, and was reared in Ohio until the age of seven years. He then accompanied his father to Indiana and resided in Steuben County for two years, returning thence to Ohio. At the age of twelve years he came to St. Joseph, this State, with his father, and two years afterward he commenced to work in the employ of others, being engaged in farming for some time and receiving his wages every month. In St. Joseph, Mich., April 1, 1864, he was united in marriage with Miss Ursula Engle, who was born in St. Joseph County April 19, 1845, being the sixth among eight children born to the union of James and Margaret (Vincent) Engle.

After his marriage Mr. Cowles resided in Burr Oak Township, St. Joseph County, Mich., whence he came to Muskegon County on the 29th of December, 1872, and located in the woods on the farm where he now resides. About four acres of the property had been cleared and it was not long before the remainder was under fine cultivation. For a time he made his home in a little log cabin, but later he built the substantial residence at present adorning the place. He and his wife are the parents of two

children: Julia A., widow of Henry Baars and the mother of one son, John H.; and James E., who is at home with his parents. The home farm comprises twenty acres, upon which are raised the various varieties of small fruits.

A Republican in his political belief, Mr. Cowles has officiated in various capacities and has held a number of local positions, to which he has been elected by his fellow-citizens. In 1891 he filled the position of Deputy Clerk, and has also served as Township Clerk, School Inspector, School Director and Highway Commissioner. He is a member of the Grange, in the progress of which he is warmly interested. He is a man who takes an intelligent interest in everything pertaining to the advancement of his community, and is a public-spirited and progressive citizen.



**E**DWIN J. SMITH, an able attorney, eloquent advocate and the present popular Postmaster of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., has for over one year discharged the duties of his present office to the great acceptability of his fellow-townsmen and the general public. Mr. Smith was born at Grand Rapids, Mich., November 14, 1856, and was the son of James W. and Sarah H. Lobdell Smith, widely known and highly respected residents of the Wolverine State. The father, a native of Ohio, accompanying his parents to Michigan in 1853, made his home in Grand Rapids, where he worked at his trade of a carpenter until 1869. At this latter date he removed to Muskegon, and there continued in business as a carpenter and builder until his death. James W. Smith was a man of excellent business ability, a true patriot, and served bravely as a soldier in the Tenth Michigan Cavalry. Enlisting at the breaking out of the Civil War, he was severely wounded and discharged for disability, but later joined the infantry, and, receiving the well-earned commission of a Lieutenant, served faithfully until the close of



the war. He entered into rest in Muskegon in the year 1875. His devoted wife, and mother of our subject, was the daughter of John Lobdell, a pioneer citizen of Michigan, who, arriving from New York in the very early days, kept the Lombard House at Williamston, then one of the oldest and best hotels of the West. In 1860 Mr. Lobdell located permanently in Grand Rapids and was numbered among the prominent hotelmen of that thriving city. Esteemed by a host of friends, the maternal grandfather of Mr. Smith passed away in 1856.

Mrs. Sarah (Lobdell) Smith survived until April, 1893, and throughout her life of busy usefulness was recognized as a woman of superior attainments, an earnest Christian worker, who gave active aid in the cause of temperance. She was also prominently connected with the Woman's Relief Corps, and took a leading part in the benevolent enterprises of her locality. To the two sons and daughters who blessed her home she gave loving care. Fred E., the brother of our subject, single, and a clerk in a store in Muskegon, died in September, 1890. The sister, Ellie, now the wife of M. W. Decker, a prosperous contractor and builder of Muskegon, began to teach at the age of fourteen years, and, continuing in that vocation, became one of the most highly valued instructors of her present home. The first ten years of Edwm. J. Smith's life were spent in the Valley City, but he attained to manhood in Muskegon, there receiving a thorough training in the newspaper offices. His principal preceptor in that line of work was the Hon. George C. Rice, of the *Chronicle*. While only a boy, our subject wrote a poem entitled "Panthéism," which, widely read, was received with most favorable criticism. At sixteen Mr. Smith furnished a series of articles for the *Chronicle*, which gained him an extended reputation as a local writer, but at eighteen he decided to avail himself of the opportunity for a thorough education and entered the Muskegon High School, from which he was graduated four years later, having with honor completed a Latin-Scientific course.

Mr. Smith immediately after leaving school began the study of law under the Hon. F. W. Cook,

and was admitted to the Muskegon County Bar. Later, upon motion of the Hon. John Fitzgerald, our subject was admitted to practice in the United States courts. Since 1881 he has been a constant resident of Whitehall, where at the latter date he entered upon the successful practice of the profession of law. May 25, 1882, true to his instincts as a genuine newspaper man, Mr. Smith became the proprietor of the Whitehall *Forum*, and, aided by this medium, was soon a leading factor in local and State politics. A man of bright intelligence and a liberal Republican, he has taken an active part in the conventions and local councils of his party, and has for years been Village Attorney of Whitehall. May 7, 1892, appointed Postmaster of Whitehall by President Harrison, our subject has since devoted himself entirely to looking after this branch of Uncle Sam's affairs. The people of the town, appreciating his efficiency, would be glad, regardless of politics, to see the present incumbent serve out his term of office. An energetic citizen, untiring and public-spirited, our subject has been closely identified with all matters of local progress, and it was largely through his determined efforts that the village acquired one of the best systems of water-works in the State. He gave the "Sylvan Beach" its name, organized an improvement company and in various ways materially assisted in needed improvements and enterprises. He was one of the charter members of the Sons of Veterans of Whitehall, of which he was First Sergeant. Fraternally, he is also connected with the Odd Fellows, and has been Chief Patriarch of the Encampment and Vice-Grand of the Subordinate Lodge, as well as Secretary.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Minnie S. Floten, an adopted daughter of Attorney Henry Slater, of Muskegon. The pleasant home of our subject and his estimable wife has been brightened by the birth of three children, two daughters and a son, Edna, Enna and Norval. Next to these promising children Mr. Smith is proudest of his Latin-Scientific diploma, his certificate of admission to the State Bar and his commission as Postmaster, which mark the upward progress of a self-reliant man. Our subject is handy with

the pen and captured the "Blodget Special" first prize, in 1891 over sixty-five papers for the best article on the West Michigan Fair. He has unbounded faith in the quick development of Michigan manufactures and agriculture, but he has a particularly strong belief in Muskegon County, which, with her rich resources and splendid lake-board, he thinks will soon be leading in the van, and in which he has found steadfast friends, without whom he thinks no man can accomplish his purposes.



**W**ARREN T. MARTIN has been identified with the best interests of Muskegon Township for many years, and occupies a pleasant homestead on section 28. He was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., three miles from the village of Jordan, December 2, 1821. His parents were natives respectively of France and the State of New Jersey, and the father died when W. T. was a child of two years, leaving a family of three children, of whom he was the second. His childhood years were passed in New York, and his schooling was principally obtained there. In his youth he was employed on a farm, also engaged in the sawmill business for many years, and worked on the Oswego River.

September 22, 1846, occurred the marriage of W. T. Martin to Miss Hannah Breed, who was born in the town of Clay, Onondaga County, N. Y., February 17, 1823. Her father, James Breed, was born in Manlius, N. Y., and was reared in his native place, becoming a farmer. Her grandfather was one of three brothers who came to this country in the "Mayflower." The mother of Mrs. Martin bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Kinney, and was born in Manlius, N. Y., where she was reared to womanhood. In 1817 she became the wife of James Breed, and with him commenced housekeeping in Clay Township, Onondaga County. Not long afterward they removed to Hannibal, Oswego County, where Mr. Breed died at the

advanced age of ninety years. His wife had passed away at the age of forty-eight. They were the parents of fifteen children, nine of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, and eight of whom are now living. Mrs. Martin was the fifth child and third daughter in respect to age. At the age of thirteen she accompanied her parents to Hannibal Township, Oswego County, N. Y., where she was married.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Martin located three miles from the city of Osborn, where for some time he engaged in the milling business. In 1851 he came to Michigan and at once located in Muskegon, where he secured employment in a mill. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army, becoming a private in the Twenty-sixth Michigan Infantry, and serving until the close of the war. He participated in a number of engagements and was sunstruck while under march. He was in Washington, D. C., at the time of the assassination of President Lincoln, and was discharged at that city.

Returning from active warfare, Mr. Martin located on his farm in Muskegon Township and resumed the peaceful pursuit of tilling the soil. He is the owner of a farm of seventeen acres, upon which are two houses; he also owns five residences at Muskegon Heights. Success has crowned his efforts and he is numbered among the most prosperous of Muskegon's farmers. In his political affiliations he was formerly a Democrat, but is now an adherent of the principles of the Republican party. He has held a number of offices in the town of Norton, Muskegon County, and has served as Justice of the Peace, Township Treasurer, Road Commissioner and School Director. Socially, he is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic at Muskegon.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin have been the parents of four children, three of whom, Josephine E., Eugene F. and Alson J., are deceased. Their only surviving child is Mary J., who married Joseph Donoghue, and is the mother of one child, Ray Martin, now (1893) four years of age. In the social circles of this community both Mr. Martin and his excellent wife occupy high places and have the friendship of all their associates. For fifty-five years Mrs. Mar-

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tin has been a faithful member of the Baptist Church and is a charter member of the Baptist Church at Muskegon, being one of the only two survivors among the organizers of the church. Mr. Martin is also identified with this denomination and contributes liberally of his time and means to its support.



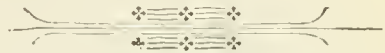
**C**HARLES E. WYMAN. The philosophy of success in life is an interesting study and affords a lesson from which many can profit. In choosing a pursuit in life, taste, mental gifts and opportunity should be considered, as any young man who has a disposition to become a respectable and useful citizen desires to succeed therein. In his chosen occupation as a lumber manufacturer, Mr. Wyman has reached the top round of the ladder of success, and is to-day classed among the substantial and representative business men of Grand Haven. The people of Ottawa County are familiar with his name, for he has resided among them for many years and has earnestly identified himself with every worthy enterprise which has for its object the upbuilding of the city.

Like many of the foremost business men of Grand Haven, Mr. Wyman is a native of the Empire State, having been born in Essex County in the town of Schroom, February 10, 1826. He is a son of John and Abigail (Potter) Wyman, the former a native of Essex County, N. Y., born in 1806, and the latter of Pawlet, Vt. Mrs. Wyman's father, Thomas Potter, was of English descent, his father having been born in New London, England. Charles E. Wyman is the youngest of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, five of whom survive at the present time. He received his early educational training in the district school and later entered a seminary at Chester, N. Y.

After leaving the schoolroom Mr. Wyman became interested in the manufacture of iron in Elizabethtown, Essex County, but at the end of

two years he sold out. Later he engaged for a short time as engineer on a lake steamboat. In selecting his companion in life he chose Miss Harriet Reynolds, a resident of Northfield, Ohio, and a daughter of Cyrus Reynolds. After his marriage he followed agricultural pursuits for five years in Summit County, Ohio. From there he came to Michigan, and, settling in Blendon Township, Ottawa County, built a sawmill. This he conducted successfully for four years, when the mill was burned. He then began operating a mill at Georgetown and made considerable money in the enterprise, but two years later disposed of the business and returned to the Buckeye State.

In 1865 Mr. Wyman returned to Grand Haven and operated a mill at the mouth of Grand River for four years, when it was destroyed by fire. He then erected a new mill a mile up the river and engaged in the manufacture of lumber in company with H. W. Buswell, under the firm name of Wyman & Buswell, the connection continuing for ten years, when Mr. Wyman sold his interest to his partner. Following that, he, with others, bought a large tract of pine timber-land in Mecosta County, under the title of the Chippewa Lumber Company, and they were soon doing an extensive business. Later he bought a farm comprising five hundred and twenty acres in Ottawa County and has been engaged in farming enterprises ever since. A wide-awake, thorough-going business man, he has amassed a fortune. He is one of the Directors of the Grand Haven National Bank and is interested in many enterprises of a paying character. To his marriage were born four children, as follows: Harvey P., Charles R., George R. and William P., all of whom are active business men.



**E**ZRA E. TYLER, an enterprising and successful dealer in real estate in Muskegon, Mich., is authority on the values of inside and outside property. In 1883, he purchased thirty-three acres in the suburbs, which in 1889 he platted

out into town lots, now known as Tyler's Addition, and which he has made one of the most desirable portions of the city. Our subject has been numbered among the enterprising citizens of the West for many years, but is a native of New England, and was born in Vermont March 11, 1818. The remote ancestors of the Tyler family were of English nativity, but early in the history of the United States a forefather settling among the rugged hills of New England founded the branch of the family to which Ezra E. belongs. The paternal grandparents making their home among the Green Mountains of Vermont there reared their family to thrifty industry and usefulness. Laban Tyler, the father of our subject, born, reared and educated in Vermont, married in his native State, and was numbered among the energetic and substantial citizens of his home locality. The mother, Elizabeth (Marden) Tyler, was likewise the descendant of honored ancestors, old-time residents of Vermont, of which State she was herself a native.

The parents not very long after their marriage removed to Stoneham, Mass., where the devoted mother died in 1876. The father yet surviving, makes his home at Lynn, Mass. Mr. Tyler was only one year old when his father and mother removed to the old Bay State, and there spending the days of boyhood he attended the excellent schools of Stoneham, but before the breaking out of the Civil War emigrated to the West. In 1863 he enlisted in Company H, Third Michigan Cavalry, and was assigned to the division under Sheridan. Our subject actively participated in numerous decisive battles and skirmishes, taking part in the fights of Corinth, Island No. 10 and Shiloh. After nearly three years of faithful service, he was mustered out at San Antonio, Tex., and was honorably discharged March 20, 1866, at Jackson, Mich. After the close of the war, Mr. Tyler returned to Van Buren County, Mich., and after some length of time, employed in traveling through the farther West, in 1886 made his permanent home in Michigan, and bought a farm near Mona Lake, Muskegon County, and with energy entered into the pursuit of general agriculture and fruit culture. In 1841, settling in Muskegon, our subject pur-

chased the broad acres which now form Tyler's Addition, a charming suburb of Muskegon.

Mr. Tyler is politically a Republican, and is interested in both local and national issues, being intelligently posted in the progressive movements of the day. He is fraternally a member of Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F., and likewise belongs to Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R. Ezra E. Tyler and Miss Evaline Piper were united in marriage November 18, 1868. The estimable wife of our subject, in girlhood a resident of Kalamazoo, later making her home in Muskegon, is the daughter of Alexander Piper, a pioneer settler of the State, widely known and highly respected. One child, a daughter, Birdie, has blessed the pleasant home. The attractive family residence, located on South Terrace Street, Tyler's Addition, is of modern design, handsomely finished, and surrounded by a fine class of buildings, evidencing the rapid march of improvements in this quarter of the city.



**J**AMES J. GEE, a prominent native of Michigan and an enterprising and prosperous business man of Whitehall, Muskegon County, was born in the township of Albion, not far from the village of Homer, in Calhoun County, December 19, 1851. Our subject is the only living son of William N. and Lucinda (Turner) Gee, pioneer settlers of the Wolverine State. The father, born in Virgil, Cortland County, N. Y., August 26, 1827, was one of the two sons of Jacob B. Gee, also a native of Virgil, and born in 1807. The paternal great-grandfather, John S. Gee, was the son of Maj. John Gee, an Englishman by birth, but a brave soldier of the War for Independence. He held a Major's commission and served with distinction during the entire period of the struggle. The Major carried an old bull's-eye watch, since handed down from generation to generation until it came into the possession

of William N., while he was yet a boy. Not realizing the historical value of the memento, the father traded the watch off for a cheap shot-gun, but now would give half of his property if he could recover the old relic of Revolutionary days. A brother of the father, Volney Gee, served bravely during the Civil War and was among the first to answer his country's call. When an attempt was made to cross the Potomac Bridge at Fredericksburgh in the face of a murderous fire from the other side, and the commanding officer called for volunteers to make the dash, he, with others, in the face of almost certain death, undertook the hopeless task. Nearly all of the courageous Federals fell before the deadly fire of the rebel troops.

Volney Gee was thrice wounded in the right arm and when told that it must be amputated to save his life, replied that he had rather be sent home dead than lose his arm. Every effort possible was made to preserve his life, but the heroic young soldier expired in the hospital in Washington. He was Sergeant of his company, and records show him one of the bravest soldiers of the war, gallant in action, resolute and fearless. Physically, he was a magnificent specimen of manhood, six feet in height, as straight as an arrow, and was indeed a soldier born. John S. Gee, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a small farmer and hotel-keeper of Virgil, N. Y., and his hotel was a rendezvous for the soldiers of the War of 1812. At his death this property was inherited by Jacob B., who was his only son. Jacob sold the old home and removed to Steuben County, N. Y. He was a tiller of the soil, and in 1833 he journeyed to Michigan on a prospecting tour, and in the pioneer days of 1835 brought his family to the then far West and settled in Calhoun County, Mich. He took up a small piece of land from the Government and bought other real-estate near Albion. William N., the only living son, was then a lad of eight years. The paternal grandfather married at nineteen years of age Miss Libby Ballou, who was born in Herkimer County, N. Y. She was the daughter of a Frenchman, and a niece of a celebrated sea-captain. The noted Methodist preacher, Ballou, was one of this same family, as

was also the mother of the late President Garfield. Five of the ten children of the paternal grandfather are deceased, and their mother long since passed away.

Our subject's father, William N., the eldest, was the possessor of more than ordinary ability but had little opportunity to gain an education, as he was early obliged to assist his father in the support of the brothers and sisters who clustered about the family hearth. When only twenty years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda Turner, the daughter of Elijah Turner, a farmer and the son of a once wealthy distiller whom the revenue laws ruined. The distiller, known as Judge Turner, was a prominent politician of his day and a man widely known and respected. It was in 1853 that Jacob B. Gee removed to Muskegon County and made his home not far from Whitehall, and there upon the old homestead he is yet living. The Gee family in the West represent four generations: Jacob B., the only son of John J.; William N., the only living son of Jacob B.; James J., the only living son of William N., and the children of James J.: Carl, Merle and Lynn. William N. and his family came to Muskegon County in 1865. He has been a successful general agriculturist and fruit-grower and has accumulated a comfortable competence. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1857, and is and has been a life-long temperance man, being identified with the Prohibition party. He has never accepted a political office, but has been a Trustee and for many years a Class-leader in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In the parental father were five children, one dying in infancy. Emma, the eldest living, was for fifteen years a successful teacher in the public schools. She is an active worker in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and is a clear and forcible writer, strong in argument, and choice in diction. A maiden lady, she makes her home with her parents. Clara married G. A. Sumner, formerly a merchant, but now cultivating one of the fine fruit farms of J. J. Gee; Cora Bird, the youngest girl, was a graduate of Whitehall High School and died in early womanhood. James J., our subject, attained to adult age upon his fath-

er's farm. He was fourteen years old when, in 1865, his parents came to Muskegon County. He completed his education in the Whitehall High School and afterward taught for one year. Later he entered the hardware store of P. Morse & Son, of Whitehall, but, the firm failing at the end of two years' service, he purchased the stock from the creditors entirely on time and against the advice of his friends, who warned him that by so doing he would only make a second failure of the business. Confident of his own ability and determined to succeed, Mr. Gee went ahead with courage and from the first steadily made his upward way, the business increasing constantly, until now he controls one of the largest hardware and furniture trades in this part of Michigan. Beginning for himself about fifteen years ago with about \$1,000 capital, our subject has accumulated a handsome property and aside from his business interests in Whitehall is extensively engaged in fruit-growing, owning one of the finest young fruit farms in Muskegon County and another equally as valuable in Oceana County. Mr. Gee is an enthusiast in horticulture, giving it much careful study and attention, and receives both pleasure and profit from the possession of these valuable pieces of real estate. He firmly believes that Michigan has the finest fruit soil and climate of any State east of the Rockies. Upon his Muskegon and Oceana County farms he has five thousand five hundred trees, the choicest varieties of peaches, apples, quinces, plums and pears grown in this latitude.

Combining business and recreation, our subject now spends much of his time in his orchards, and for the past few years has allowed himself more opportunity for rest and relaxation from the daily cares of life. By untiring industry and shrewd business management attaining the pinnacle of success, he can now afford to let others do the work, while he yet continues the watchful oversight necessary to the prosperity of his extensive business interests. Mr. Gee has not desired to hold local office, never feeling he could spare the time from his own private business, which so long demanded his unceasing care. Our subject is, however, a public-spirited man, and with efficiency

served one term as Supervisor of the township and for two terms ably discharged the duties of Treasurer of the township.

In August of the year 1880, Mr. Gee and Miss Ida Widoe, of Whitehall, were united in marriage. Mrs. Gee is a daughter of the late John Widoe, a prominent clothing merchant of Whitehall. He was born in Pennsylvania, and was the worthy descendant of a long line of brave and honored ancestry. The attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. Gee has been blessed by the birth of three sons: Carl, aged twelve years; Merle, ten years old; and Lynn, aged eight years. Our subject and his estimable wife are both valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are active in benevolent enterprises. Fraternaly, Mr. Gee is connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and in his social, business and church relations commands the esteem and high regard of the entire community of old friends and acquaintances.



PROF. JOSEPH H. SHEFFIELD, the efficient and cultured Principal of the Muskegon High School, is a native of New England, and was born June 21, 1861, in the city of Worcester, Worcester County, Mass. The Sheffields are of English ancestry and early became permanent settlers in Rhode Island and New York. Charles P. Sheffield, the father of Joseph H., was born in Franklin County, N. Y. The mother of our subject, Lucy (Keach) Sheffield, was the daughter of Joseph H. Keach, a prominent citizen of Connecticut, who long resided in Windham County, the birthplace of his children. Remaining in Worcester throughout the years of boyhood, Prof. Sheffield prepared for college in the Worcester High School, from which, after a full course, he graduated with honor in 1879. In the fall of the same year he entered Harvard University and, taking the classical course, at the expiration of four years graduated with the Class of '83, receiv-



ing the degree of A. B. Prof. Sheffield was also the recipient of especial honors in Latin and Greek, and during his collegiate course made an enviable record in every branch of study which he pursued. Having enjoyed the benefit of extended instruction, he decided to engage in the vocation of a teacher, and in the fall of 1883 took charge of Old Lyme Academy, located in the town of Old Lyme, Conn., situated on the Connecticut River.

Prof. Sheffield for a twelvemonth retained the Principalship of the academy, but in the fall of 1881 journeyed to the West and became Principal of the High School of Manistee, Mich., and successfully held the responsible position until 1889, when he accepted the charge of the Muskegon High School and was immediately installed as Principal. With an average attendance of two hundred students, the Muskegon High School justly boasts of its high grade of scholarship, its pupils entering since 1890 the State University at Ann Arbor with a high record, of which Prof. Sheffield may well be proud. The thorough course comprises four years of Latin, two of Greek, two of German, and two of French, and throughout the entire four years the higher branches of English are pursued, trigonometry being the highest mathematics taught. Prof. Sheffield has seven capable assistants, each excelling in his own department. The graduates of the Muskegon High School now entering the University of Ann Arbor as freshmen have enjoyed a most thorough preparation for college, and many of them will undoubtedly take high rank in the university classes. The new High School building recently erected is a handsome edifice, built of terra cotta and brick and resting upon a fine stone foundation. It contains extensive laboratories used in the study of chemistry, natural philosophy, physiology, biology and physical geography. This magnificent edifice cost about \$60,000.

While in college, Prof. Sheffield was a member of the Phi Beta Kappa and much enjoys the reunions of the fraternity. On the 11th of July, 1886, our subject and Miss W. A. Buchner, of Saginaw, Mich., and daughter of Isaac Buchner, were united in marriage. Mr. Sheffield and his accomplished

wife are the parents of two daughters and one son: Pyrrha B., Ida K. and Charles V. Mrs. Sheffield is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, socially, occupies a prominent position. Achieving excellent results as an instructor, and devoted to the duties of his profession, Prof. Sheffield also takes an active interest in the movements of the day and is a liberal-spirited citizen, progressive and enterprising.



PETER H. WINTERMUTE, proprietor of the leading livery, board and sales stable at Muskegon, was born in Orange County, N. J., on the 30th of November, 1834. He traces his ancestry to Germany, whence in an early day his paternal grandfather, John Wintermute, emigrated to America, making settlement in New Jersey. There, in 1810, Septer Wintermute, the father of our subject, was born, and in Orleans County, that State, in 1813, Emeline Bartholf, mother of our subject, opened her eyes upon the scenes of earth. The former followed the business of a hotel-keeper in various places, and also conducted a livery stable.

The second son in a family consisting of three sons and two daughters, Peter H. Wintermute passed the first four years of his life in his native place, whence he was taken by his parents to Illinois. There for two years he resided in Bernadotte, removing from there to Pekin, the same State. After spending four years there, the family went to Wisconsin and settled in Whitewater, where the parents remained until their death. Peter H. remained in that city until 1870, when he removed to Milwaukee, Wis., and there continued the livery business, which he had carried on in Whitewater for two years prior to his removal.

In the spring of 1875 Mr. Wintermute came to Muskegon, Mich., bringing with him the equipments of his livery stable, and purchasing property in the business centre of the city. In 1881

he erected for the more extensive prosecution of his business a brick building, 70x150 feet in dimensions, and two stories in height. Here he conducts a large and profitable business, both with the people of Muskegon and the surrounding country. In his stable may be found a large number of valuable horses belonging to himself, as well as many owned by residents of the city. He also carries a full line of hacks, carriages, coupes and phaetons, which he rents at reasonable rates.

In 1872 Mr. Wintermute was united in marriage with Miss Reta, daughter of Joel Clapp, of Whitewater, Wis., and one child has been born to bless this union, a daughter, Lucy C. Having made a careful study of the political issues of the age, Mr. Wintermute has cast his influence on the side of the Democratic party, which he invariably supports. In his fraternal relations he is identified with the Masonic fraternity and the Knights Templar, being prominently connected with these social organizations. He is a stockholder and Director in the Muskegon Savings Bank, and is also prominently connected with other leading enterprises of the city and county. His attention, however, is devoted principally to the details of his extensive business, and it is through his excellent judgment, tact and discrimination that he has been enabled to succeed where others might have failed.



**P**ROF. GERRIT J. KOLLEN. Among the well-known educators of the State of Michigan, there is not one who has attained a higher degree of prominence than Prof. Gerrit J. Kollen, who is the most efficient, trustworthy and capable President of Hope College, at Holland, Mich. He is a product of Holland, where he was born on the 9th of August, 1813, being named in honor of his worthy father, whose life was devoted to tilling the soil in his native land.

When the subject of this sketch was about two years of age he was left fatherless, he being the

youngest of five children born to his parents. As a youth he possessed an original and active mind, and being of a rather adventurous disposition and an inquiring mind, he looked below the mere surface of things and was considered a promising lad. In 1851, he, in company with his widowed mother, who is still living at the advanced age of ninety years, in full possession of physical and mental vigor, crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States, and with her settled in Allegan County, Mich., where his early schooling was obtained. In 1862, he entered the preparatory department of Hope College, at Holland, in which he took the full classical course, graduating in the year 1868. Very shortly after leaving school he engaged in teaching, and during the three years that he taught in the district schools of the county he made an enviable record for himself as an educator, and gained much practical knowledge of the requirements and duties of a successful instructor. At the end of that time he was elected Assistant-Professor of Mathematics in his Alma Mater, and in 1878 was made Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics, which position he held until 1885, when he became Professor of Applied Mathematics and Political Economy, and also had charge of the Chair of Logic. The duties of these positions he filled so ably, so cheerfully and to such purpose that in 1893 he was elected President of the college, a position his fine and cultured mind and his past experience as a disciplinarian eminently fit him for. Although the friend of all his pupils and their sympathetic adviser, he commands their utmost respect, and accordingly system and order are among the rules of his institution. He has proven himself to be the right man in the right place, and that the college is a popular one is attested by the fact that it is largely patronized.

Prof. Kollen was married in 1879, Miss Mary W. Van Raalte becoming his wife. She was a daughter of Rev. Dr. A. C. Van Raalte, the founder of Hope College and of the city in which it is located, and a sketch of whom will appear in another part of this volume. Prof. Kollen is a strong Protectionist and has taught that theory in his classes of political economy for many years. He is therefore in sympathy with the Republican

party in his political views, and whenever occasion requires supports the men and measures of that party both by precept and example. The college at the head of which he stands was established by the Reformed Church of America, of which Prof. Kollen is a member, and in which he is one of the Elders. He has frequently been a delegate to the several synods and attended the last meeting of that body at Asbury Park, N. J. He takes an active interest in everything that pertains to the growth and development of the city of Holland, is an active member of the City Improvement Association, and is one of the Directors of the First State Bank of the place. In manners the Professor is genial, cordial and gentlemanly, and is an easy, fluent and interesting conversationalist. He has a pleasant smile and a kind word for everyone, and is highly respected, not only by the faculty of the college, but by the citizens of Holland generally.



**J**OHN GILLHESPY, a prosperous general agriculturist, a member of the Township Board of Equalization and one of the oldest living English settlers of Chester Township, Ottawa County, Mich., was born in Westmoreland, England, November 18, 1828. He was the fifth of the eight children born unto the union of Thomas and Mary (Cass) Gillhespy, natives of England and descendants of a long line of British ancestry. The father was steward for a Mr. Wilson, and held the position until his death. A part of the Cass family early made their home in America, some of them settling here before the War for Independence. The maternal grandfather of our subject, John Cass, removed to Canada, where he died, but two of his brothers had preceded him to America long before his arrival in Canada. The father of Mr. Gillhespy died when our subject was but ten years of age. Of the children in the parental family, Thomas, deceased, was the eldest; Ann, deceased,

was the wife of John Boynton; Mary is the widow of Joseph Fitchett; Thomas (second) is deceased; John is our subject; James was killed in 1862, at the battle of Murfreesboro; Barbara is the widow of John Boozer, who was killed at the battle of Bentonville, N. C.; and Thomas (third) is a citizen of this township. After the death of her husband, the mother, in 1845, emigrated to Canada, and in 1850, removing to the States, located on the same section of land where our subject now resides, and where she improved a farm. She died on the place in 1857.

John Gillhespy, a little lad when his father died, attended school until eleven years of age, when he went on a farm in England and worked for three and a-half years. His employer, Mr. Manzer, paid him about \$35 per year. When nearly fifteen years of age our subject accompanied his mother and family to Canada, and there assisted in the care of the home farm for two and a-half years. Upon the 19th of March, 1848, Mr. Gillhespy came to Michigan, but soon after journeyed to northern Wisconsin, where he engaged in lumbering, running rafts and doing similar work for one and a-half years. In the fall of 1849, again arriving in Michigan, our subject lumbered on Mill Creek for a while, and in the spring of 1850 ran logs from Port Huron to Detroit. He then went to Canada for his mother and family, and after returning with them for the succeeding three years was employed in lumbering. He also jobbed for some time for Mr. Cole, and during the winter and summer was engaged in taking the minutes of pine land for various firms. In 1855, resigning from the timber business, Mr. Gillhespy removed to his present farm, which then consisted of eighty acres of wild land, to which he has since added forty acres. A log house, hewn smooth in the inside, was his first improvement, and in this primitive building he resided for some time after his marriage.

August 15, 1855, were united in marriage John Gillhespy and Miss Lovina Field, a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and daughter of Edward and Eliza (Fuller) Field, who emigrated from the East to Michigan in 1850, and settled in Ottawa County. Mr. Field and his family were numbered

among the prominent settlers, and both the father and mother of Mrs. Gillhespy passed away in this county, deeply mourned by all who knew them. Mrs. Field died in 1854, but Mr. Field survived until 1890, reaching the advanced age of eighty-three. He and his excellent wife were the parents of five children. Lovina was the eldest; Harriet, deceased, was the wife of H. Hilliard; John H., deceased, died in the army during the late war; the fourth child died in infancy; and Albert is also deceased. In 1859 our subject and a Mr. Patterson erected on the farm a sawmill, which had water power and carried an upright saw. This mill Mr. Gillhespy conducted until 1887. In 1875 he built his present attractive and commodious residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Gillhespy began life on the farm with but very little capital save their hope, courage and stout wills, and could sum up their possessions in the land, a log house and yoke of oxen. At first the wife assisted her husband in the out-door work, and aided him in clearing until the country became more thickly settled and they could afford to hire hands. Of their home farm of one hundred and twenty acres, one hundred and five are in a high state of cultivation, and, aside from this property, Mr. Gillhespy has one hundred and forty acres of land in Chester Township, eighty of which are under profitable cultivation. Eleven children have with their bright presence blessed the home. The sons and daughters are: Ann, wife of William Pierce; Franklin; Ellen, wife of Thomas Morley; Eleanor, wife of Adam River; Ethlenia, the wife of Jacob Host; John; James; Amelia, wife of Edward Kelly; Lovina, wife of George Joblonski; William and George. Ellen and Eleanor are twins. Our subject and his good wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are prominent in the social and benevolent work of the denomination. They are also both worthy members of the Patrons of Industry. Fraternally, Mr. Gillhespy is associated with Ravenna Lodge No. 355, I. O. O. F.; he has filled all the chairs of the order, and is now Representative of the lodge to the Grand Lodge at Lansing. Mrs. Gillhespy is a Rebecca degree member. Aside

from his present public work as a member of the Board of Equalization, our subject has efficiently discharged the duties of Highway Commissioner, and fully commands the high regard of all his fellow-townsmen.



**L**ORENZO PILLEN, of section 23, Dalton Township, Muskegon County, is one of the large land-owners of this locality. A native of Canada, his birth occurred at Kingston in 1830. His father, George Pillel, a native of Lancashire, was of humble parentage, and early in life, being obliged to make his living, learned the weaver's trade. He was only eighteen years old when he went into the British army, enlisting in the service for life. He was a faithful soldier for more than eleven years and took part in the great wars with France and Napoleon. He was never wounded or taken prisoner, but at length became dissatisfied with army life and after paying \$80 managed to secure his discharge papers. After this had been effected he removed to Kingston, Canada, where for several years he was a servant. He was there married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Simon and Mary (Walker) Hough, and who was born in Canada. Simon Hough was a refugee at the time of the Revolutionary War and was a Tory. He received eight hundred acres of Government land, two hundred of which fell as an inheritance to our subject's mother. Mr. Hough removed to Victoria County and brought up his family on a farm. He afterward returned to Kingston to live with one of his children. At the time of his death he was ninety-two years of age, and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife passed away in her seventy-eighth year.

Lorenzo Pillel is the third in his father's family of nine children, the others in order of birth being John, Adolphus, Charles, Parker, Henry; Finetta, deceased, wife of William Tool; Hannah, wife of Davis McLaughlin; and Julia Ann, wife of Peter Van Allen. Our subject received much



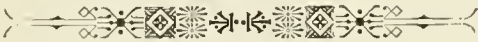


yours Respectfully  
Samuel Maffett

of his education in the district schools and was early familiarized with the routine of farm work. For several years he turned his attention to the painter's trade, but finally devoted himself to agriculture. In 1865 Mr. Pillen settled at Romeo, Mich., where he remained only a year. It was in 1866 that he located on his present farm, where his first purchase was one of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land. As the years passed, he continually bought tracts of land, improved and otherwise, until he had in his possession the deeds of twenty forty-acre farms. In addition to general farming and investments in real estate, Mr. Pillen has been extensively engaged in milling and the lumber business. His judgment is universally correct in regard to investments, and, therefore, his opinion is much sought after by his friends and neighbors.

In 1853, Mr. Pillen was united in marriage, in Canada, to Miss Abigail, daughter of Benjamin and Susannah Williams. Five children grace their union: George; Susannah, wife of George Rice; John; Martha, wife of Martin Eby; and William H. The members of this family are justly numbered among the best citizens of the county.

Recognizing his business ability, the neighbors of our subject have several times shown their wisdom in electing Mr. Pillen Treasurer of Dalton Township, and his able management of affairs has been alike creditable to himself and to them. For three terms he has capably filled the position of Township Supervisor. The vote of Mr. Pillen is invariably for the nominees of the Republican party.



**S**AMUEL MAFFETT, the affable and energetic Treasurer of the city of Muskegon Heights, is a prominent real-estate man, and possesses extended information and thorough knowledge of outside and inside properties. From his early youth a resident of the Wolverine State, he enjoys a wide acquaintance

and intimate association with the leading interests of his present locality. Our subject is a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and was born June 25, 1831. His paternal grandfather, Robert Maffett, emigrated from Ireland to America at an early day, and settled in the State of New York, where he reared his family.

The father of our subject, Samuel Maffett, Sr., was born in the Empire State, where he passed his entire life, dying in the natal year of our subject, 1831. By trade a miller, he was successful in his business enterprises and gained a competency. He was a man of ability, industrious and upright, and was highly respected by all who knew him. At his demise he left to the care of his wife, Mary (Frost) Maffett, their son, Samuel, then an infant. The mother, also a native of New York, grew to womanhood amid the associations of childhood, and remained in that State until after her second marriage.

During the childhood of our subject, he remained in the New York home and attended the excellent public schools of the neighborhood. In 1844, when thirteen years of age, he journeyed to the West with his mother and step-father, and, settling in Jackson County, Mich., enjoyed the advantages of more extended study. Later he learned the trade of a millwright, which business he prosperously conducted for more than two-score years. In 1868, locating in Muskegon, he secured employment as a millwright, in which occupation he achieved a comfortable competency and laid the foundation for greater prosperity. For some time he has been interested in the handling of a large variety of real-estate deals and has been prominently connected with the promotion of numerous enterprises tending to the development and upbuilding of Muskegon Heights.

In 1852 were united in marriage Samuel Maffett and Miss Ruth Holmes, a native of New York, and the daughter of John Holmes, a long-time and highly esteemed resident of the Empire State. The union of our subject and his most estimable wife was blessed by the birth of three children, two sons and one daughter. Charles and John are both deceased; Nellie is the wife of C. B. Dawes, of Muskegon. The pleasant family resi-

dence of Mr. and Mrs. Maffett is desirably located upon the corner of Maffett and Delano Streets. Politically a Republican, Mr. Maffett has taken a high place in the local councils of the party and has occupied with distinction various offices of trust. As a member of the School Board he has materially aided in the advancement of educational progress by encouraging the development of a higher grade of instruction and scholarship. In 1892 he was elected Village Treasurer of Muskegon Heights, and through his faithful discharge of official duties has won the confidence of the entire community.



**W**ILLIAM M. MCKILLIP, an enterprising and prominent citizen and a retired lumberman of Muskegon, Mich., who for two-score years actively engaged in business in the Wolverine State, has acquired a handsome competence and materially aided in the rapid growth of the vital interests of Muskegon County. The early home of our subject was in Washington County, N. Y., where he was born February 12, 1822. His parents, David and Mary (McLean) McKillip, long-time and well-known residents of the Empire State, were of Scotch ancestry, the families having early emigrated to the United States, where they took a leading place among the honest, industrious and law-abiding citizens to whom the prosperity of our country is due. The father was born in New York, and received his education and youthful training in his native State, where he married and passed many years of usefulness, engaged in the occupation of a carpenter and builder. The maternal ancestors of Mr. McKillip came from the Old Country to New Jersey about a century ago, the grandfather, James McLean, having been born in that State. Our subject passed the days of boyhood upon his father's farm and, attending the district school of the home neighborhood, obtained a good rudimentary education.

Energetic and self-reliant, Mr. McKillip at the

age of fourteen began life for himself, and, determined to make his own way in the world, set about acquiring a trade. Having learned coopering, he decided to try his fortune in the broader fields of the West and, journeying to Ohio, settled in Summit County, working at his trade in that locality for the succeeding two years. In 1846, attracted by the business prospects of Chicago, our subject made his home in the Garden City, where he continued for five years, meeting with ready and remunerative employment. In 1851, Mr. McKillip located in Traverse City, Mich., and was superintendent of a lumbering company until the fall of 1861, when he returned to Chicago and for four years resided in the Western metropolis. In the spring of 1865, our subject went to the Upper Peninsula and took charge of several sawmills, continuing there for two years, handling the extensive lumber interests of John S. Reed & Co., a pioneer lumber firm, with headquarters at Chicago. In the early part of 1867, locating in Muskegon, Mr. McKillip became superintendent of Chapin, Marsh & Co.'s Mills, manufacturers of lumber, and for fifteen years retaining his responsible position gave great satisfaction to the firm, who thoroughly appreciated his business ability and energy. From 1881 to 1891 he was a member of the firm of McKillip & Co., of Manistee, Mich., engaged extensively in manufacturing lumber.

In 1853 were united in marriage William M. McKillip and Miss Emma J. Hopper, of Chicago, daughter of George Hopper. The union was blessed by the birth of four children, three of whom survive. George H., a leading citizen, is the present Recorder of Muskegon; Mary J. is the wife of C. O. Padly; Hattie is married to W. H. Mann, of Muskegon. Financially prospered, our subject is a stockholder and Director of the Lumberman's National Bank of Muskegon, and is likewise a stockholder and Director of the Muskegon Booming Company, having been prominently connected with the latter organization for many years. The home of Mr. and Mrs. McKillip, one of the best in the city and located at No. 111 W. Webster Street, is the abode of hospitality and the scene of many a reunion of old-time friends. Politically a staunch Republican, our subject takes an active interest in



both local and national issues, but has never been in any sense of the word a politician, his earnest efforts throughout his successful career having been devoted to the demands of a large and prosperous business.



**W**ILLIAM FAY, the enterprising wholesale paper dealer and printer of Muskegon, Mich., handles Japanese napkins, stationery, lead pencils, and manila fibre and other wrapping papers, fine and coarse. Born in Hampden County, Mass., January 30, 1821, our subject was the son of William H. Fay, Sr., a native of Massachusetts and a pioneer settler of Ohio, where he passed many years and died in 1882. The mother, Mary (Loomis) Fay, was likewise born in Hampden County, Mass., and was the daughter of Uriah Loomis, who was of English ancestry, and who in a very early day in the history of our country made his home in the old Bay State, and later actively engaged in the Revolutionary War.

Our subject was only an infant when, with his parents, he journeyed to Ohio, where he remained until 1849, receiving a good common-school education in the free schools of the home district. In 1849, then about twenty-eight years of age, Mr. Fay went to the South and located in Virginia, where he entered into railroading, and continued in that employment for several years. He later established a shipyard at Richmond, Va., and conducted the business until 1862, when he was arrested by the Confederates and imprisoned for a time in Richmond, and was later transferred to Salisbury, N. C., where he was kept a prisoner for over a year. During this time he was in Salisbury, from May 1 to September, 1862, and was imprisoned with five hundred other wretched creatures, two hundred and thirty-nine of the number starving to death.

From September 1, 1862, until January 1, 1864, Mr. Fay remained a prisoner in Richmond, then,

released, went into the secret service department of the Federal army and engaged as a scout in the Confederate camps. He met with many narrow escapes, at one time having a rope placed around his neck, saving himself only by strategy. He remained in the secret service until the close of the war, and when the struggle was ended returned again to Richmond. Our subject was with Gen. Butler as aid and guide from January until June, 1864, and with Gen. Grant at Cold Harbor did valuable service for the Union cause in and about Richmond until October 16, 1864. At this latter date Mr. Fay returned to Gen. Butler, who was occupying the north side of the James River, near Cantrill's line. Our subject continued with Gen. Butler until he was succeeded by Gen. E. O. C. Ord, and was then at the service of the latter until the surrender of Richmond. While with Grant our subject kept up a daily correspondence between Richmond and the Union lines. Mr. Fay, who performed invaluable work for the Government, was greatly assisted by his wife and friends in Richmond, and in the performance of his dangerous duties became acquainted with Secretary of War Randolph. While under Gen. Ord, our subject, possessing a thorough knowledge of the people, their customs and the country thereabout, captured a number of prisoners at various times, and now owns two guns and a pistol he took at one time from his prisoners.

After the fall of Richmond Mr. Fay conducted Gen. Wetzel's army into the city, and, riding at the head of the column, became intimately acquainted with all the generals who occupied the old Southern city. These commanders were Gens. Deut, Hallock, Schofield, Stoneman, Terry and Patrick. During the occupation of Richmond Mr. Fay saved the life of Gen. Hallock, who was about to become the victim of an assassin. After peace was assured our subject was appointed Inspector of the post of Richmond, and held the position until the trial of President Andrew Johnson. Mr. Fay remained in Richmond until the year 1884, and was one of the grand jury which indicted Jeff Davis for treason. In the year 1884, making his permanent home in Muskegon, he entered into his present line of business,

which he has since prosperously conducted. Politically a stalwart Republican, our subject has been a member of the party from the first day of its formation.

In 1852, in Richmond, Va., were united in marriage William Fay and Miss Eliza T. Hicks, a native of the Old Dominion and daughter of Pleasant Hicks. Four living daughters and two sons, deceased, have blessed the home. Georgie is the widow of Edward T. Merrill, of Muskegon, and is prominent in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union work; Alice is the wife of Lewis C. Scull, of Muskegon; Mary is at home; and Mattie is employed as a book-keeper in Muskegon. The cheerful and attractive family residence, located at No. 77 Sanford Street, is the scene of many pleasant gatherings of friends, the home being the abode of hospitality. Few men did the amount of dangerous service for the preservation of the Union which fell to the lot of Mr. Fay, who never found a path too dangerous to tread, and never faltered when duty urged him to an effort which involved life and death. The remembrance of his devotion to the Federal cause is a precious legacy with which he may endow his children, a bequest more enduring than houses or lands.



**L**OREN O. BEERMAN, the leading and prosperous dealer in pianos, organs and all kinds of musical instruments of Muskegon, Mich., is widely known as the organizer of the Muskegon City Band, which, containing twenty-two pieces, is one of the finest drilled bands on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan. Mr. Beerman is justly proud of the ability and success of the Muskegon City Band, of which he has had the entire supervision and training and directing of the music. In 1890, in competition at the Band Tournament held at Big Rapids, the Muskegon City Band took the first money and won the plaudits of an admiring audience. During the summer the band give open-air concerts and in

the winter play in the Opera House. In his business as a dealer in musical instruments our subject has acquired an extended trade, carrying a full line of musical goods of the best manufacture and most popular makes. A native of Canada, and born in Ontario, March 6, 1851, our subject is the son of Stephen Beerman, likewise born in Canada, but now residing in Muskegon, Mich., having late in life removed from the Dominion to the United States. The mother, Sarah (Patterson) Beerman, was a native of New York and the descendant of a well-known and highly respected family of the Empire State.

Our subject spent his early years in Canada, and in the Dominion received an excellent education. At sixteen years of age he removed to the States and located in Ferrysburg, Mich., where he worked for ten years in a sawmill. Later he learned the trade of a carriage-maker, and in 1877 went into the business on his own account, continuing the manufacture of vehicles for twelve years. He then sold out the carriage business and engaged in handling musical instruments. The musical talent of Mr. Beerman undoubtedly influenced him in his choice of business, and, excelling as a band-master and director, he has made a wide acquaintance and enviable reputation. The open-air concerts and the musical programmes given by the Muskegon City Band in the Opera House have done much to elevate the standard of music in Muskegon County and the near vicinity.

In 1873 Loren O. Beerman and Miss Mary Burbank were united in marriage. The estimable wife of our subject was a long-time resident of Spring Lake, Mich., and is the daughter of Isaac Burbank, a native of Ontario, Canada. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Beerman has been blessed by the birth of one son, Fred L., now seventeen years old, who is possessed of a very high order of musical ability and plays the piano, the euphium and trombone. He is also an excellent performer on the traps and drum and takes a leading part in the concerts, being a pleasing soloist and a favorite with the audiences. Our subject is fraternally a Knight of Pythias, and is a member of Banner Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Lake Side, Muskegon. He is also connected with the Knights of the Mac-

eabees, and in these various orders numbers many friends. Politically a Republican, Mr. Beerman, while not an office-seeker, is intelligently interested in both local and national issues. The family residence, No. 45 Pine Street, is desirably situated and well known to the wide circle of friends and acquaintances by whom our subject is esteemed as a neighbor and citizen of ability and sterling integrity. Financially prospered, Mr. Beerman is numbered among the prominent business men of the city, and is ever ready to do his full share in all matters of public welfare.



**C**HARLES F. ROSS, Secretary and Treasurer of the Alaska Refrigerator Company, is a man distinguished for the most sterling qualities of mind and heart, and brings to bear experience and the wide knowledge, both general and technical, which such a position demands. The present works were established at Michigan City, Ind., in 1878, at first on a small scale, but were greatly increased as the demand for refrigerators became general. The company continued in business in Michigan City until 1890, when the plant was moved to Muskegon. The site here covers fifteen acres, with all the shipping facilities possible at hand. The factory proper is a brick structure, three hundred and forty feet long, sixty feet wide and three stories high. It is fitted and equipped with the best machinery and in the most approved manner, and is run by a Reynolds-Corliss engine of three hundred horse power. Three boilers, built of steel and sixteen feet long, compose the battery. The building is lighted by four hundred and fifty incandescent lights and is protected from fire by eight hundred sprinklers.

It is the aim of the company to meet the wants of all classes of people who use refrigerators, and therefore its line for the household embraces one hundred and thirty-five styles, the prices ranging from \$10 to \$100. Then there are seven sizes for grocers' use, three sizes and styles of beer coolers,

and six styles each of single and double cooling rooms. These range in price from \$350 upwards. Special sizes are made to order, so that every want can be filled. The company uses five hundred thousand feet of lumber each month. A train over a quarter of a mile long and drawn by two of the largest engines on the Chicago & West Michigan Road carried the first shipment of refrigerators sent out by the Alaska Refrigerator Company this year (1893). When the signal was given for the largest train that ever left this county to start, the shrieks that broke from the moving double header were responded to to the echo by the brazen throats of twenty factories, while the two thousand inhabitants of the infant city looked with pride at the receding train. This train, speeding Eastward, had for its load four thousand eight hundred refrigerators and represented the product of the factory for five weeks. The value of the consignment was \$50,000. The Alaska Refrigerator factory has in the last two years almost doubled its capacity. Mr. Moon was made president of the company about 1885, and fills that responsible position in a most satisfactory manner. The superintendent in charge, J. H. Ford, is well known here, having been for a number of years in the employ of the Leonard Refrigerator Company, Grand Rapids, and since his connection with the big institution he has driven it right to the front.

Charles F. Ross, the present efficient Secretary and Treasurer, entered the service of the company in 1882 and has been connected with the same ever since. He was born in the city of Beloit, Wis., in 1856, and is the son of L. E. and Susan (Brown) Ross. The school days of our subject were passed in Beloit, and he began his career by clerking in a book store in that city. Later he came to Michigan and became book-keeper for the firm of Douville Bros., at Manistee. In 1882 he went to Michigan City, Ind., and there became book-keeper and shipping clerk for the Alaska Refrigerator Company, and continued with the company actively until 1890, when the plant was moved to Muskegon. He became a stockholder and was made secretary and treasurer. Mr. Ross is thoroughly conversant with every department of the business and is widely known for his

integrity, ability and enterprise. In 1878 he married Miss Ella J. Meade, a daughter of A. C. Meade, of Beloit, Wis. In politics, Mr. Ross is a Republican and, socially, is a Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity, Michigan City Lodge.



**E**ZRA STEARNS is one of the old residents and early settlers of Muskegon County, having purchased land on section 2, Fruitland Township, where he still resides, in 1867. Moreover, he is a veteran of the late Civil War, and as one of the brave preservers of the Union he is the more entitled to mention in the history of one of the States and counties which did so much to maintain the liberty and prosperity now enjoyed.

Our subject is a native of the Bay State, where his birth occurred in 1836. He is of English descent, his paternal ancestors having emigrated to New England from their native land. The grandparents, Cyrus and Sarah (Weeks) Stearns, were residents of Goshen, Mass., for a number of years. The former was a blacksmith by trade and continued at that arduous employment until he reached advanced years, when he retired from business and passed his remaining years with his children. He had passed his ninetieth birthday when summoned from this life, and his wife had passed from the shore of time but a few years previous to his demise. He was a member of the old Predestinarian Baptist Church.

The father of our subject, Alanson Stearns, was one of seven children, the others being as follows: Ezra, Electa, Ahneda, Levi, Enos and Thomas. He was born in 1800 in Goshen, Mass., and made his home with his parents until his marriage, which occurred when he reached his twenty-second year. In his youth he learned the blacksmith's trade of his father and followed that vocation together with farming throughout life. In 1832, he wedded Eliza Ann Dumbleton. For a number of

years thereafter, he rented land in Massachusetts, and it was not until 1854 that he removed to this State. He purchased land near Brooklyn, Jackson County, and to the clearing and cultivation of the property devoted himself for several years. After the war he became a resident of Leoni and there resided until his death. He and his wife were devoted members of the Baptist Church, and for many years he held the office of Deacon in the same. In regard to politics, he was first a Whig and later a Republican. To himself and wife were born ten children, as follows: James; John, deceased; Ezra, of whom we write; Marcia E., whose death occurred at about the age of fourteen years; Ellen M., the widow of Jairus Bewer; S. Harvey, deceased; Edwin, who wedded Mary Hinman; Carrie G., widow of Dwight J. Bewer; Frederick, deceased; and Ernest W., deceased. The mother of these children died in Brooklyn, and the father married again, taking for his second wife Mrs. Margaret Aylsworth, whose maiden name was Hinman. Two children were born of this marriage, Charles and Minnie.

Ezra Stearns was given good educational advantages and assisted his father dutifully until he was twenty-five years old. At this time, in company with him, he purchased eighty acres of land and, as previously stated, in 1867 finally located on the land which has been in his possession up to the present time. He has become a successful agriculturist and is recognized as such by all who know him. Though his original purchase in this community was a tract of one hundred and eighty acres, he has since disposed of a portion, but still owns one hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, upon which he has placed many improvements. In Lenawee County, Mr. Stearns was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Allen, daughter of Alfred A. and Nancy J. (Stearns) Allen. Three children have come to bless the home of this worthy couple: Arthur A.; Susie E., now the wife of H. B. Carr; and Frederique M.

Mr. and Mrs. Stearns are active workers in the Baptist Church, in which they have held membership for a number of years. In politics, our subject is a staunch Republican and fraternally is affiliated with N. H. Ferry Post No. 3, G. A. R., of

Whitehall. The boys in blue have a warm place in his heart, for he was one of their number for three years and one month during the war. On the 30th of September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company H, First Regiment Michigan E. & M. He was, with his regiment, placed in the Army of the Cumberland and served on detached duty nearly all the time during his term. He was stationed in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia, and participated in two engagements, one at Perryville and the other at La Vergne, near Stone River. As a soldier his career was always marked by fidelity to duty and unwavering courage. These qualities he has carried into the further battles of life, and as a citizen is patriotic and true to his country in times of peace as well.



**G**EORGE McMILLAN has been for a quarter of a century a leading agriculturist of Dalton Township, Muskegon County, and for nearly that length of time has lived on his farm, which is situated on section 30. His parents were Abraham and Melvina (Pangborn) McMillan. Our subject's paternal grandfather was of Scotch ancestry, though his birth occurred in the northern part of Ireland. After receiving a good education he came to the United States alone and made settlement in Onondaga County, N. Y. He was married in this country and reared a family of two children, Abraham and Arthur, the latter of whom died in early manhood of smallpox. The mother, whose maiden name was Catherine Smith, was the widow of a Mr. Speed at the time of her marriage with Mr. McMillan, and by her first union had two children, Nicholas and Hannah.

Abraham McMillan, Jr., was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., where he passed his boyhood days. Quite early in life he began working in a woolen factory and was employed there for many years. He served an apprenticeship of three years at the blacksmith's trade and afterward followed that vocation. About 1841, he married in New York

a daughter of John and Polly Pangborn. About ten years later, Mr. McMillan removed with his family to St. Joseph County, Mich., and opened a blacksmith shop in the village of Burr Oak, which place was the scene of his labors until he was summoned by the Death Angel in 1875. His wife survived him only two years. In politics he was a Whig and a strong Abolitionist. After the organization of the Republican party, he became one of its staunchest supporters.

The subject of this record was born in Marcellus, Onondaga County, N. Y., in 1844. In his boyhood he acquired a good education in the district schools and learned the blacksmith's trade of his father. He remained under the homestead roof until his twentieth year, when he started out to make his own livelihood. For two years he engaged in blacksmithing at Burr Oak, and in 1866 located on Muskegon Lake, doing blacksmithing for lumbermen. The following year he abandoned his trade and has since almost exclusively devoted himself to the care of the farm which is still his home and of which he then purchased a portion. On the place was considerable timber, both hardwood and pine. Mr. McMillan afterward became the owner of forty acres adjoining and cultivates sixty acres of the farm. The timber was quite valuable and brought to the owner a considerable income for many years. In connection with his farm, Mr. McMillan has carried on a blacksmith shop to some extent.

On the 16th of April, 1865, occurred the marriage of our subject and Miss Emeline Wilcox, who was born in Branch County, Mich., and is the daughter of Elias and Hannah (Thompson) Wilcox. Four children came to gladden the home of our subject and wife. Etta died at the age of thirteen months; Nellie is the wife of Ernest R. Califf; Willie married Alma Lewis; and Emma resides with her parents. The children were given good educations and the last-named, who graduated from the district schools, is now engaged in teaching. The other sister was also a successful teacher in this county prior to her marriage.

For nearly fifteen years, Mr. McMillan has been a School Director and is greatly interested in the cause of education, being an advocate of our

admirable school system. He has faithfully served his township for six years as Supervisor, was Justice of the Peace eight years and for a number of years was Clerk of the Township. He is a Republican in his political convictions and is in every sense of the word a patriotic citizen. As a man, he is upright, and in all his intercourse with his friends and neighbors is thoroughly reliable and honorable. In 1870, Mr. McMillan left his farm and went to Whitehall and worked at his trade for about two years, when he returned to his farm.



**C**HAUNCEY E. KOON, M. D., a noted surgeon of Michigan, and a prominent resident of Casnovia, was born in Tyrone Township, Steuben County, N. Y., October 1, 1843, and is a son of Alanson and Marilla (Wells) Koon. His father, a native of New York and a blacksmith by trade, came to Michigan in the spring of 1844 and settled in Hillsdale County, where he died about 1868, at the age of sixty-eight. In politics, he was first a Whig and afterward a Republican. In religious matters, he was a believer in the doctrines of the Baptist Church, with which he was identified. He was of Dutch descent, and the family name was originally Kuhn.

The mother of our subject was a daughter of Henry Wells, a farmer, who passed his entire life in Steuben County, N. Y. She was the mother of six sons and two daughters, all of whom attained maturity. Chauncey E. was reared on the home farm, and was occupied in farming pursuits when the war broke out. His patriotic spirit was at once aroused on behalf of the Union, and on the 24th of August, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Eleventh Michigan Infantry. With his regiment he participated in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Buzzard's Roost, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, and many other minor skirmishes.

Before leaving Michigan our subject was commissioned Sergeant, and after the battle of Stone

River he was promoted to be Second Lieutenant, and commanded his company during that engagement. In the fall of 1863 he was commissioned First Lieutenant, and in the spring of 1864 became Captain. In the fall of 1864 he was honorably discharged at Sturgis, Mich., at the expiration of his term of service. Afterward he traveled for a number of years, engaging in the sale of goods. In the fall of 1870 he commenced the study of medicine at Lisbon, under the preceptorship of a brother. Two years later he took a course of lectures at the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and subsequently was graduated from the Chicago Medical College. In 1873 he located at Casnovia, where he has since conducted an extensive and lucrative practice, making a specialty of surgery. He keeps abreast with the latest discoveries in the medical world, and has prosecuted his studies in the hospitals at Ann Arbor, Chicago and Bellevue. Socially, he is a member of the County and State Medical Societies, and is also identified with the Masonic fraternity. For one year he officiated as State Medical Director of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member of the United States Pension Board, which meets at White Cloud.

September 7, 1866, the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca S., daughter of William and Amanda (Lemon) Clark, natives of Monroe County, Ind. Two children have blessed this Union, William A. and Thomas M. The elder son was educated in a Normal school, and studied law in the University of Michigan. He is now a resident of Minneapolis. The younger son was educated in the Normal at Ypsilanti, and is now a student in Rush Medical College at Chicago. Politically a Republican, the Doctor has always been interested in every measure calculated to promote the welfare of the community, and has been honored by his fellow-citizens with the highest office in their power to bestow, that of President of the village.

In the medical world the name of Dr. Koon is well known and his abilities universally recognized. His biography, thus briefly related, is one that would honor any man; it is a history that, when measured by characteristics of sturdy, unemotional





*George J. Tillotson*



honesty and common-sense, marks the full rounded man and citizen who is equal to the higher demands of civilization. Such a man is invaluable in any community, and certainly the Doctor has proved himself an important factor in the progress of Casenovia.



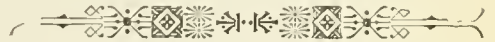
**G**EORGE J. TILLOTSON, Vice-President of the Lakeside Manufacturing Company, of Muskegon, is well and favorably known throughout the county and is esteemed for his many excellent qualities of mind and heart. The firm with which he is identified conducts an extensive saw and planing mill and box-factory business, the sawing capacity being about one hundred and twenty-five thousand feet, and the annual output aggregating some eighteen million feet. The box department manufactures for the general wholesale trade, doing a business of about \$100,000 in that line. The affairs of the company are in a highly prosperous condition, its sound business methods having secured for it a wide acquaintance and good standing in the commercial world.

The business was originally established in 1883 by Hunter, Tillotson & Co., who were superseded by the Tillotson & Loveless Company, with a capital stock of \$25,000. In 1890, this firm was bought out by P. P. Misner, whose interests were merged with the present Lakeside Company, which was organized in May, 1891, with a capital stock of \$30,000. The officers are, J. W. Moon, President; George J. Tillotson, Vice-President; P. P. Misner, Secretary; and W. W. Barcus, Treasurer, all well-known business men of Muskegon. The original of this notice was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., November 14, 1819, to the union of David and Sally (Hamlin) Tillotson. The mother was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Daniel Hamlin.

Our subject, the fourth in order of birth of seven children, passed his boyhood in Warren County, N. Y., and received his education in the

district schools. He assisted his father on the farm until seventeen years of age, and then went to the village of Glens Falls, N. Y., where he was employed in a sawmill until 1865. From there he came to Muskegon, Mich., and was in the sawmill business in this city for eleven years. After that he bought a sawmill and engaged in the manufacture of lumber for two years, when he took in as partner E. A. Blodgett. The business was continued under the firm name of Tillotson & Blodgett for eight years, when our subject disposed of his interest to his partner. Later he bought a sawmill at Bluffton, on Muskegon Lake, and conducted this successfully for four years, when the mill was burned. Since that time he has been engaged with others in the sawmill and box-factory business, under the firm title of the Lakeside Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Tillotson was married in 1842 to Miss Martha Norris, a resident of Glens Falls, and a native of Vermont. They have three living children: Dallas C., insurance agent for the State of Michigan, representing the West Chester Insurance Company, of New York; Florence A., wife of D. D. Erwin; and Fanny, wife of J. E. Montgomery. In politics Mr. Tillotson is a strong supporter of Republican principles, and since its organization has voted with that party. He is a Director in the Union National Bank, and is one of the substantial and worthy citizens of the county.



**T**HOMAS C. STINSON, who owns and occupies a finely-improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Casenovia Township, Muskegon County, was born in the village of Monaghan, County Monaghan, Ireland, November 4, 1823, being the son of William and Rebecca (Cragne) Stinson. His grandfather, Patrick Stinson, passed his entire life in his native town, Ballybay, County Monaghan, Ireland, where he followed the trade of a cooper. He and his wife were born in the same year, and passed away

during the same year, being one hundred and four years of age. They were the parents of four children: Samuel, Jane, Elizabeth and William. In their religious convictions, they were firm believers in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church.

The only member of Grandfather Stinson's family who emigrated to the United States was William, who was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, August 12, 1785. In 1830 he crossed the broad Atlantic, and after a monotonous and uneventful voyage of seven weeks arrived in New York City. From there he proceeded to Ohio, where he located in Crawford County, three miles east of Bucyrus. During his entire life he followed his trade of a cooper, although he also frequently engaged in farming pursuits. In 1814 he located sixteen miles west of Toledo, where his death occurred on the 24th of December, 1868. His wife passed away in 1860. Politically a Republican, he was active in local affairs and possessed considerable influence in his community.

The mother of our subject was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, and was one of a family of six daughters and two sons, her father being Thomas Crague, a wealthy farmer of Ireland. Her two brothers were David and Walter, the former of whom emigrated to the United States and settled in the West. One of her sisters, Mrs. Margaret Foster, also came to America and resided in Crawford County, Ohio, until her death. After completing his studies in the common schools, our subject learned the trade of a cooper, which he followed for some years in connection with farming pursuits. He cleared forty acres in Ohio, which he disposed of in May, 1856, and, coming to Michigan, bought sixty acres on section 36, Casnovia Township, Muskegon County. He now owns one hundred and twenty acres of highly-cultivated land, upon which he engages in general farming.

In numerous public positions, Mr. Stinson has served with efficiency and acceptably to all his fellow-citizens. For two terms he filled the position of Supervisor, for twenty years he served as Justice of the Peace and he has also been Township Treasurer. In September, 1864, he enlisted as a

member of Company I, Ninth Michigan Infantry, and with his company served on the staff of Gen. Thomas. At the close of the war, he was honorably discharged, in September, 1865, at Jackson, Mich. Socially, he is identified with the Masonic fraternity.

December 21, 1845, Mr. Stinson married Miss Sarah Miller, who was born in Lucas County, Ohio, being the daughter of Lewis Miller, a shoemaker residing in that county. Five children were born of this marriage, four of whom arrived at mature years: Lambert, who died at the age of forty years, leaving a widow and four children; Lewis, William and Samuel. After the death of his first wife, which occurred in July, 1855, our subject was united with Miss Catherine All, a native of Ulster County, N. Y., and a daughter of John All, a farmer of Lucas County, Ohio. Seven children were born of this union, only two of whom survive, Addie, wife of George Paris, and John.



JAMAN E. STRONG, a prominent citizen and enterprising business man, senior partner in the well-known firm of Strong & McBride, shingle manufacturers of Muskegon, Mich., is a native of Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and was born May 13, 1850. Our subject was the son of Jaman and Harriet (Winchester) Strong, both of the parents having been born within the limits of the Empire State, where their ancestors occupied positions of usefulness and influence. The father had received superior educational advantages, and was a physician of local note, successful in his chosen profession and enjoying a wide practice in Cattaraugus County. After many years of untiring devotion to the cause of suffering humanity, this worthy physician was so severely injured by the kick of a horse that he soon after died, in the year 1851, passing away deeply mourned by all who knew him. The excellent mother, yet surviving, resides in the city of Buffalo, where she has long made her permanent home. The union of

the parents was blessed by the birth of bright and intelligent children, who were left fatherless at a very tender age. Jaman E. was the eldest son and second child of the group which once gathered about the fireside of the old New York State home so many changing years ago.

Our subject, reared in his birthplace, attended the schools of the neighborhood during his childhood, and later received more advanced instruction in an academy at Springville, N. Y., there completing with honor a course of study. As he attained to a self-reliant manhood, he ambitiously determined to begin his business career in the farther West, where he hopefully looked forward to making his fortune. In 1865, journeying to Michigan, Mr. Strong came to Muskegon, and not long after his arrival obtained employment in a mill in Montague, where he remained two years, and later was variously engaged in the different departments of the lumber business for some length of time. In 1887 entering upon the manufacture of shingles, our subject two years later, in 1889, received into partnership Mr. McBride, with whom he has since profitably conducted business upon the present site of the shingle mill, which now furnishes an immense product to a large and rapidly increasing trade. Our subject in serving his apprenticeship to his present business was engaged for three years in logging in the Upper Peninsula. In 1888, Mr. Strong established his factory in its present location, and built a shingle mill and shops. His extensive factory has a capacity of two hundred thousand shingles per day, and employs a large force of men regularly.

Jaman E. Strong and Miss Sarah E. Crane were united in marriage July 1, 1878. The estimable wife of our subject was a resident of Montague, and a daughter of Curtis C. Crane. One child, a promising son, Harold C., has blessed the union. The pleasant home is desirably located at No. 139 Harrison Street. Politically a Republican, our subject is well posted in the current affairs of the day, and is deeply interested in local and national issues. Mr. Strong has one brother living, the Rev. Leroy Strong, a Methodist Episcopal minister of Albion, N. Y. His sister, the wife of Nathan Wilder, resides in Van Buren County, Mich. Our

subject, now numbered among the leading manufacturers of Muskegon County, may with pleasure review the struggles and triumphs of a life whose manly, earnest efforts have been so abundantly crowned with well-earned success.



**E**MANUEL M. DUTTENHOFFER, the energetic and enterprising superintendent of the Eagle Tanning Works, Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., is a native of Ann Arbor and was born December 16, 1865. His parents, Christian and Gertrude (Schuh) Duttonhofer, were among the early settlers of the Wolverine State. The father was born in the Province of Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1835, and was the son of Christian Duttonhofer, a lifetime resident of the Fatherland and a stonemason by trade. The paternal great-grandfather was an honored Lutheran minister, and with his sons and daughters spent his entire life in his native land. The grandfather having but very limited means, his children early fitted themselves for the battle of life. The father of our subject enjoyed but the most limited opportunities for an education in the Old Country and when quite young went into a machine-shop, where he remained until he was nineteen years of age. Young and ambitious, he finally decided to try his fortunes in America, and with but a small capital crossed the broad Atlantic and, safely landing in the United States, proceeded directly to the State of Michigan. Desiring to locate in Ann Arbor, he was obliged to borrow twenty-five cents with which to pay the expenses of the last few miles of his journey.

Christian Duttonhofer at once received employment in a tannery, and, learning the trade, worked at it steadily for two years, then spent the succeeding two years in different places in the West, but at last returned to Ann Arbor. In this latter city, in 1859, were united in marriage Christian Duttonhofer and Miss Gertrude Schuh, also a na-

tive of Wurtemberg, Germany, born in 1840. The mother came to this country when a child with her parents and settled in New York State, where her father tilled the soil and remained until his death. Previous to this event, however, the estimable mother of our subject made Michigan her home. Mr. Duttenhofer owned a small farm near Ann Arbor, and there he and his wife settled and together side by side aided each other up the hill of life. For twenty-five years the father of our subject continued at his trade, and five years of this time was proprietor of a tannery, which he built upon his farm. In 1878 he removed to Ypsilanti, where he operated a tannery for a time, and in 1882 came to Whitehall, where he is engaged in the duties as foreman of the yards of the Eagle Tanning Works, of which his son, Emanuel M., has the full charge.

The father is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a man of high principle, is a staunch Prohibitionist. His brother William was a soldier in the German army and later, emigrating to America, journeyed to California and was lost sight of by the other members of the family. Of the brothers and sisters who gathered in the home of the parents, Julia, the eldest, married August Coors, a Methodist preacher at Clare, Mich. Henrietta married Uriah Tower, who is a merchant and the Postmaster at New Duluth, Minn. Nellie, a graduate of the High School, and Gustavus Adolph, a bright student, are both with their parents. Emanuel M., our subject, was educated in the High School of Ann Arbor, and assisted his father on the farm, later learning all the details of his present line of business in the tannery at Ypsilanti. In 1882, he made Whitehall his permanent location and for four years was employed in the tanning works of which he is now the valued superintendent, and in which responsible position he has given faithful service for the past seven years. Mr. Duttenhofer is justly numbered among the rising young business men of Whitehall. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and active in religious work and enterprise. Fraternally, our subject is connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons and politically is a Prohibitionist. For four years he has

been a member of the Board of Equalization and, possessing executive ability, has in this official work given great satisfaction to the general public. Our subject is yet unmarried and makes his home with the other members of his father's family, all of whom occupy positions of usefulness and command the high regard of many friends.



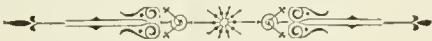
**G**USTAV HUBERT is manager of the Grand Haven Manufacturing Company, of Grand Haven, Mich. The firm manufactures wagon jacks, shears, punches, celery plows and does a general blacksmithing and wagon repair business. Under the able management of our subject this business is now in a flourishing condition and the company enjoys an extensive trade.

Mr. Hubert is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in 1846 in Prussia, where the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. He attended the common schools in accordance with the laws of his country until fourteen years of age and then began serving a four years' apprenticeship to the blacksmith's and wagonmaker's trade. He is therefore now a practical workman and, as he thoroughly understands the business, is capable of managing and directing others. Having arrived at man's estate, he determined to seek a home in the New World, and in 1869 crossed the briny deep, landing in New York. He did not tarry long in the Eastern metropolis, but made his way at once to Kent County, Mich., and has since lived in this State. There he sought and secured employment at his trade, which he followed until the year 1871, when he came to Grand Haven. Here he has since resided. Forming a partnership with his father-in-law, August Hubert, he established the works of the Grand Haven Manufacturing Company and has successfully conducted the business up to the present time, doing a good local trade and receiving many orders from foreign markets. Our subject invented and pat-

ented the "Boss" wagon jack, which he now manufactures and which is meeting with a good sale. In 1892, he patented the celery plow, another of his inventions. It is used in the cultivation of celery, one of the chief products of Michigan, and has proven quite successful.

In 1873, a marriage was celebrated in Grand Haven which united the destinies of our subject and Miss Augusta Hubert, daughter of August Hubert, who is Treasurer of the Grand Haven Manufacturing Company. Unto them has been born a family of seven children, two sons and three daughters, who in order of birth are as follows: Matilda, Bertha, Henry, Annie and Frederick. The two deceased are Edward and Theresa.

In politics, Mr. Hubert is a supporter of Democratic principles, but has never been an aspirant for official preferment. He cares not to enter the political arena, desiring rather to give his entire time and attention to his business interests. He possesses considerable inventive genius, is a painstaking and thorough workman and is now enjoying a well-deserved success. He need never have occasion to regret leaving his native land and coming to America, for he has found in the New World a comfortable home, a good business, has gained prosperity and has made many pleasant friends, who esteem him highly for the many excellencies of his character and his sterling worth.



**J**OHN J. BITHER, a leading business man and enterprising proprietor of the Union Tea Company of Muskegon, Mich., carries a complete line of the choicest teas handled in the United States. He also deals largely in the best grades of coffee, likewise offering a handsome stock of queensware. Catering to the demands of a large city trade, our subject enjoys an extended custom, reaching out into the surrounding country. Mr. Bither, from his childhood intimately associated with the growth and upward progress of the Wolverine State, is a native of

Columbia County, N. Y., and was born January 30, 1857. His father, John Bither, a native of Germany, reared and educated in the Old Country, had arrived at mature age before bidding adieu to the familiar scenes of youth, he emigrated to the United State. He made his home in New York until about thirty years of age, and, a man of industrious thrift and enterprise, was numbered among the substantial residents of Columbia County. The mother, Frances (Spath) Bither, born in Germany, was the descendant of a long line of sturdy ancestry, and from her childhood trained into habits of self-reliant usefulness, was well fitted when she arrived at womanhood to assume the cares and responsibilities of married life.

Children blessed the pleasant home of the parents, and in Columbia County Mr. Bither received his first schooling in his home district. John J. completed his studies in the public schools of his new home, and in 1877, beginning life for himself, located permanently in Muskegon. He received a training in the handling of merchandise in the store of Albert Towel, and continued in his employ for two years, making a wide acquaintance and gaining a knowledge of business methods. For a twelvemonth after he worked for Frank Alberts, and then received a position in the grocery house of W. H. Fletcher. In 1886, Mr. Bither ambitiously embarked in business for himself, then opening a fruit bazaar at No. 12 Jefferson Street. During the latter part of 1886, our subject engaged in his present business in partnership with Mangold & Hess, the firm name being Mangold, Hess & Bither. The partnership profitably endured until 1889, when the present firm of Mangold & Bither bought out Mr. Hess, and have since prosperously conducted a tea and coffee business, one of the best in its line in the county.

In 1887, John J. Bither and Miss Dema Lampman, of Allegan, Mich., were united in marriage. The estimable wife of our subject, an attractive and accomplished lady of worth and high intelligence, possesses the confidence and esteem of a wide circle of friends. The pleasant home on Western Avenue has been cheered by the presence of a bright little son, Lyman. Financially

prospered, our subject has won his own way self-reliantly to an assured position of useful influence. His time is mainly devoted to the cares of business, and he may well be proud of the fine establishment which, 85x22 feet, presents an array of wares attractively arranged. Although not a politician, Mr. Bither, as a good citizen, takes an active interest in the vital questions of the day, and, ever ready to lend a helping hand in matters of local enterprise, is esteemed a liberal-spirited citizen of executive ability and superior business attainments.



**M**ILTON THOMPSON, an energetic farmer and efficient Supervisor of Holton Township, Muskegon County, Mich., cultivating a fine homestead pleasantly located upon section 15, is a native of the Wolverine State and, born in Ray, Macomb County, in 1829, has for more than three-score years been a constant witness of the wonderful growth and rapid development of Michigan. Our subject is the son of Nathaniel and Susannah (Sauterland) Thompson, pioneer settlers of the West. The father, a native of Yates County, N. Y., was reared upon a farm and engaged in the tilling of the soil all his life. Remaining with the paternal grandparents until he had attained to manhood, he enjoyed a limited education in the primitive schools of that time. The father had no capital with which to begin life, but self-reliantly won his own way in the world. He was married in New York to the daughter of David Sauterland and subsequent to this event engaged with courage in the War of 1812. Unto the parents were born seven children: Joel, deceased; Maria, deceased, wife of John Plunkett; Robert, deceased; Hannah, deceased, wife of Joseph Sauterland; David, deceased; Rhoda, who died at the age of nineteen; and Milton. Politically, the father was a life-long Democrat and an ardent advocate of that party.

In 1824, the parents emigrated to Macomb

County, Mich., where the father bought three hundred and twenty acres of Government land, and before he received much benefit from his hard labor passed away, in the year 1831. His good wife, surviving him many years, some time after his demise married Alexander Tackles. Our subject remained at home with his mother until nearly twenty-one years of age and worked at the trade of a carpenter to a limited extent. Mr. Thompson owned at various times different farms in Macomb County, and for nine years devoted himself to the manufacture of agricultural implements in Romeo. Not being successful in that venture, in 1877 he located in Cedar Creek Township, Muskegon County, where he remained for five years, then settled upon his present farm. Of the one hundred and sixty acres, eighty acres are cleared, cultivated and under excellent improvements, with a good dwelling, substantial barns and outbuildings. Our subject was married in his native county to Miss Martha M. Bernard, a daughter of Asahel and Mary (Dean) Bernard. Of the eleven children who blessed the home of our subject and his worthy wife two died young. Alice married Charles L. Stoddard. Herbert N. was the second in order of birth. Mary S. became the wife of A. J. Parker; Homer, Irwin, Nettie (wife of S. G. Fryover), Schuyler, John and Gertrude complete the list of sons and daughters.

Mr. Thompson served with fidelity during the late Civil War, enlisting in November, 1862, in Company G, Eighth Michigan Cavalry, and fought under Gen. Burnside in the Army of Ohio. Our subject actively participated in the siege of Knoxville, and was present when Morgan was captured after a long pursuit. Mr. Thompson took an active part in the engagements of Campbell Station, Lenore Station, Strawberry Plains, and Blaine's Cross Roads. He was then placed on detached duty at Jackson, Mich., and in May, 1865, received his honorable discharge, and as a member of Dahlgren Post No. 149 now finds much enjoyment in the reunions of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Thompson is fraternally connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons and joined Romeo Lodge No. 41. He is also a member of the Grand of Holton. Politically a Republican, he

discharged the duties of Treasurer for one year and for eight years served to the satisfaction of the entire community as Justice of the Peace. Although Supervisor but a short time, he has ably demonstrated his fitness for the responsible position and thoroughly commands the esteem and confidence of a host of friends.



**H**ON. GEORGE C. RICE, for many years the able and enterprising editor and proprietor of the *Muskegon Chronicle*, and well known throughout the State of Michigan as a man of sterling worth and broad intelligence, entered into rest May 31, 1874. Throughout his career of busy usefulness our subject had occupied with honor many official positions of trust, and although at his demise but forty-three years of age, was numbered among the leading citizens of the Wolverine State. Mr. Rice was born in Rochester, N. Y., February 18, 1836, and, educated in the home of his childhood, attained to mature age a self-made man of ambitious and resolute purpose. While a youth he determined to familiarize himself with newspaper work, and to that end entered a printing-office and served a faithful apprenticeship at the case, working his upward way under adverse circumstances and opposed by a variety of forces, which only stimulated him to renewed exertion. When twenty-four years of age and thoroughly versed in the practical details of printing and publishing, our subject purchased the *Chenango Telegraph*, issued at Norwich, N. Y. During the twelve succeeding years, in which he edited this paper with marked efficiency, he was called to various important public positions in the State of New York.

At one time elected County Treasurer and at another period chosen a member of the Assembly or Lower House of the State Legislature, he discharged the responsibilities entrusted to his care to the great benefit of the general public and the

entire satisfaction of his friends and constituents. Throughout his career the private and public trusts reposed in him were ever carefully handled with a fidelity and conscientiousness apparent to all who knew him. In 1869 he permanently located in Muskegon, where he purchased and became the editor and proprietor of the *News and Reporter*, the name of which was afterward changed to the *Muskegon Chronicle*. The *Chronicle*, presenting a fine typographical appearance and brilliantly edited, enjoyed a large circulation and was successfully conducted by our subject up to the time of his death. Politically a staunch Republican, Mr. Rice was with word and pen devoted to the interests of the party, and did excellent public service in behalf of the principles which he so ardently advocated. His course, ever consistent, was guided by honor and integrity, and in his death right and justice lost a staunch friend. He was fraternally a valued member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and had among the order a host of sincere friends. Mr. Rice was twice married, his first wife, who died in 1862, being Maria L. Russell, to whom he was married in 1857 and by whom he had two children, namely: Clinton, in the newspaper business in Salt Lake City, and Lulu, wife of Robert K. Mann, of Muskegon.

December 27, 1864, were united in marriage George C. Rice and Miss Jennie A. Russell (a sister of his first wife), a native of Broome County, N. Y., and the daughter of Calvin Russell, born in the Empire State, but the descendant of a long line of honored French and English ancestry. The mother of Mrs. Rice, in maidenhood Miss Luanna Page, was likewise a native of New York, and a daughter of Jared Page, an early and highly esteemed settler of Chenango County. The estimable wife of our subject spent the days of girlhood in New York and was educated in the excellent schools of Binghamton. She has proved to be a kind and affectionate mother to the children of her deceased sister. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Rice, who possesses superior business ability, assumed the management of affairs, then much involved, and for three years prosperously publishing the *Chronicle*, later sold out, having liquidated the debts and placed herself

upon a sound, financial basis. Since, she has built a fine brick block, two stories high, 70x63 feet, and derives a handsome income from the rents of this valuable property. A refined lady of culture, Mrs. Rice has demonstrated her ability to meet and cope with difficulties, and, respected for her business qualifications, is highly esteemed for her worth of character and social accomplishments. She is a member of the Congregational Church and is an efficient worker. The attractive home, No. 18 Jefferson Street, Muskegon, Mich., is visited by a wide circle of friends and long-time acquaintances. Nineteen years have passed since the untimely demise of George C. Rice, but in the hearts of those who knew him, as he was a loving husband and father, a true and loyal citizen, his memory will long endure green and fragrant.



**W**ILLIAM F. WISELOGEL, the able proprietor of the Wiselogel Planing Mill, Muskegon, Mich., and in 1892 the efficient City Treasurer, was born in Stark County, Ohio, May 28, 1843. His father, Michael W., a native of Strasburg, Germany, emigrated to America in 1824 and became a pioneer settler of the Buckeye State. The paternal grandfather, George Wiselogel, also a native of Germany and a man of worth and upright character, spent his entire life in the Old Country. The mother, Elizabeth (Snyder) Wiselogel, was born in Cologne, Germany. Until twelve years of age our subject resided in Massillon, Ohio, and then removed with his parents to Michigan, locating in Albion in 1855, and there completing his studies in the common schools of his home neighborhood. As he grew to manhood Mr. Wiselogel became thoroughly versed in the daily round of agricultural duties upon his father's farm. In 1860 he journeyed to Muskegon, Mich., and for a twelvemonth worked in a sawmill. Desirous of learning a trade, our subject was at eighteen years apprenticed to a carpenter, and ere

long had acquired the details of planing and joining and partially fitted himself to become a carpenter and builder.

In September, 1862, answering to the call of the Government, William Wiselogel enlisted in Company D, Third Michigan Cavalry, commanded by Col. John K. Mizner, and, assigned to the Army of the Gulf, actively participated in the decisive battles of Corinth, Iuka, Jackson (Tenn.), Holly Springs, Coffeeville (Miss.), and Mobile, Ala. In 1865, after a long and courageous service, our subject was mustered out at San Antonio, Tex. He then returned to Albion, Mich., and not long after took a commercial course in Ira Mahner's Business College in Albion. He next more satisfactorily finished his apprenticeship as a carpenter, and engaged in building until 1869, when he settled permanently in Muskegon and engaged in millwrighting and contracting until 1877. At this latter date the Wiselogel Planing Mill was established, but it was burned to the ground the succeeding year. Mr. Wiselogel immediately rebuilt the mill, which continued a most profitable investment until he sold out in 1886, when he at once built his present mill, standing near the tracks of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad. The Wiselogel Planing Mill has a capacity of one hundred thousand feet of lumber per day, and, equipped with the best improved machinery, employs the year round about forty men, and manufactures sash, doors, and hard and soft wood interior finishings. Mr. Wiselogel has secured the contract for the interior finishings of the new court house of Muskegon County, the handsome building being now in course of construction.

October 12, 1867, were united in marriage William F. Wiselogel and Miss Alameda Dyer, of Albion, Mich., and daughter of Francis J. Dyer, a native of Vermont. The beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Wiselogel is pleasantly located at No. 27 Hamilton Street, Muskegon. Politically a Republican and a local leader of the party, our subject was in 1882 elected Alderman from the Second Ward, and for a period of two years efficiently discharged the duties intrusted to him by his constituents. In 1892 elected City Treasurer, Mr. Wiselogel for a twelvemonth faithfully cared for the public inter-







*J. B. Bennett, M. D.*

ests of the department of finance, and through his wise service won the approval of the general public. Fraternally, our subject is connected with Lovell Moore Lodge No. 182, A. F. & A. M., and is Present Commander of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R. He is also a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W., and is likewise connected with Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F. Our subject is Grand Conductor of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Michigan, and is connected with Davis Encampment No. 47, I. O. O. F., and belongs to Muskegon Encampment No. 6, I. O. O. F. His wife affiliates with the Daughters of Rebecca No. 121, I. O. O. F., and is a member of the Eastern Star, Nezbeth. Mr. Wiseloge is a valued member of these various orders and possesses a host of friends. Taking a deep interest in the promotion of public welfare and business enterprise, our subject early became a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and occupies a high place among the substantial and liberal-spirited citizens of his home city and the State.



**J**ACOB B. McNETT, M. D., a retired physician, now living in Grand Haven, for many years successfully engaged in the practice of his profession and won an enviable reputation. On account of his advancing years, however, he has now laid aside all business cares, with the exception of serving as examining surgeon on the Pension Board.

The Doctor was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., February 25, 1816, and comes of an old family of Scotch origin that was founded in America during Colonial days. His father, Samuel McNett, was a native of Massachusetts, and served as a Captain in the War of 1812. He became a noted politician and was prominent in public circles. He reached the advanced age of eighty-six and died in the Empire State. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sallie Hutchins, was a native of New York.

The Doctor is the eldest of ten children. He spent his childhood under the parental roof and acquired his education in the common schools and Geneva College, from which institution he was graduated in 1845. Wishing to enter the medical profession and make its practice his life work, he began reading with Drs. Frame & Powers, well-known physicians of New York. He entered upon practice in his native State, and remained there until 1857, when he emigrated Westward. Casting his lot among the people of Grand Haven, Mich., he has since made his home in this city. Opening an office, he conducted a general practice for more than a third of a century, and received from the public a liberal patronage. Since 1892, however, he has lived a retired life.

In 1846, Dr. McNett was married to Miss Louise Hunter, of Huron, Wayne County, N. Y. She died in Grand Rapids in the year 1878, leaving two sons, William, now a resident of Utah, and Frank, who is living in Omaha, Neb. The Doctor makes his home at the corner of Franklin and Third Streets, in Grand Haven, where he expects to spend his remaining days. He is comfortably situated in life, having through his labors and enterprise in former years gained a competence.

In 1863, Dr. McNett enlisted in the service of his country as Assistant Surgeon of the First Michigan Sharpshooters, commanded by Col. De Land, the regiment being assigned to the Army of the Potomac. Our subject was later detailed for hospital service, having charge of the Ft. Wayne Hospital. After the close of the war, he was appointed surgeon of the Navajo Indian Agency, in Arizona, where he remained about nine months. In 1882, he was appointed physician at the State House of Correction, which is located at Ionia, Mich., serving in that capacity two years. The appointment was made by Governor Begole, and at that time D. R. Waters was Warden of the house. He has also served as City Physician and Health Officer of Grand Haven for several years, and was one of the pension examiners for the Fifth District for four years, and has recently received the appointment again. Socially, he belongs to Grand Haven Lodge No. 13, A. F. & A. M., and also to the chapter. He has taken quite

a prominent part in politics and is a stalwart supporter of the Democracy. The cause of temperance finds in him a warm advocate and one who is never weary of work in its behalf. Dr. McNett is both widely and favorably known in this community and has a large circle of warm friends.



**G**EORGE M. MILLER, a leading farmer of Chester Township, Ottawa County, and one of the oldest German residents of the community, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, January 30, 1831, and is a son of Christian and Barbara (Kurz) Miller, who were also natives of the same land. Their family numbered eight children, of whom the following are still living: George M., Henry, and Fredericka, wife of Fred Ata, of Chester Township. The mother died in Germany in 1848, and in 1850 the father was united in marriage with Sophia Kober. They came to America in 1876, and settled upon the farm of our subject, where the death of Mr. Miller occurred July 20, 1881, at the age of eighty-one years, seven months and twenty days. His second wife is still living, and resides in this county. To them were born three children: Barbara, wife of J. Sehler, of Grand Rapids; Regina, wife of Benjamin Van Wildenburg, of Chester Township; and Mrs. Christina Bauer, a widow, who resides with Mrs. Van Wildenburg.

In accordance with the laws of his native land, the subject of this sketch attended school until fourteen years of age, and then learned the trade of nailmaking, manufacturing all kinds of nails then in use by hand. His father owned a farm, and in connection with his other business George also aided in its cultivation. With the desire to try his fortune in the New World, he bade adieu to home and friends in 1852 and sailed for America, landing in New York City on the 25th of September. He remained in New York State until 1854, when he started for Michigan, reaching Grand Rapids on the 22d of October, with a cash capital

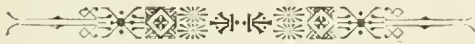
of \$200. He began working on the 24th as a teamster, for \$16 per month, and was thus employed for three years, during which time his wages were advanced to \$26 per month. Living economically and frugally, with his savings he purchased seven lots in Grand Rapids and erected two residences. There he remained until 1860, when, on the 2d of April, he removed to Chester Township, Ottawa County, settling a half-mile from his present home. This farm of eighty acres was almost entirely unimproved. Mr. Miller built a "box" house, the floor being boards laid upon the ground, and the cracks in the dwelling were so large that the snow would sift through upon the beds.

Mr. Miller has since traded his first farm for one hundred and sixty acres, of which sixty acres were cleared. This is his present place of residence, and now one hundred and twenty acres of the homestead are under a high state of cultivation. His landed possessions aggregate five hundred acres, of which three hundred and sixty acres are cultivated, and to his two sons he has given one hundred and five acres each. He has been alike generous with his daughters, to whom he has given \$1,000 each. He continued the development of his land until 1883, since which time he has practically lived retired; however, he has made his farm one of the best in the community, placing upon it all the necessary improvements and conveniences, and transforming the raw fields into tracts of rich fertility. He has made judicious investments in real estate, and in connection with his brother and brother-in-law owns much of Conklin. He was for years actively engaged in the real-estate business, and yet carries on operations in that line to a considerable extent.

On the 2d of August, 1859, Mr. Miller was joined in marriage with Barbara Schuler, a native of Germany, who came to America with her parents, Lachman and Catherine Schuler, she being their only child. The mother still makes her home with her daughter, at the age of seventy-six. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Miller was celebrated in Grand Rapids, and their union has been blessed with eight children, namely: Christina, wife of Michael Frank, of Chester Township,

Ottawa County; Henry and Philip F., both of the same township; Fredericka C., wife of John Ulmer, of Ottawa County; Elizabeth, wife of John Ritz, of Kent County; Barbara and Clara, both at home.

The parents are members of the Lutheran Church, and are highly respected people, who hold an enviable position in social circles where true worth and intelligence are received as the passport into good society. During the late war Mr. Miller served as recruiting officer of his township. In politics, he is one of the prominent members of the Democratic party in Ottawa County, and has been honored with many local offices. For eight years he was Township Treasurer, and for fourteen years was Highway Commissioner. His long-continued service is a high testimonial to his fidelity to duty. In 1872, Mr. Miller made a trip to Germany, and pleasantly spent several weeks in renewing the acquaintances of his youth and visiting childhood scenes, but he is content with America as the land of his abode, for here he has found a pleasant home and met with prosperity.



**H**ON. WILLIAM CARPENTER, the able City Attorney and eloquent advocate at the Bar of Muskegon, Mich., is junior partner of the successful legal firm of Bunker & Carpenter, and is widely known as a man of excellent judicial ability and high attainments. Our subject, a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., was born July 6, 1853, and was the son of William A. and Laura (Smith) Carpenter. The father was a native of Massachusetts and a descendant of intelligent New England ancestors. The mother, who was a native of New York, and the daughter of Cyrus Smith, a highly respected citizen of that State, received an excellent education in the home of her childhood. The father, energetic and enterprising, embarked in the mercantile business and was variously employed for a time, but in 1857 determined to locate in the West, and with his family

journeyed in an early day to Michigan and made his home in Saginaw. He remained there until 1872, when he removed with his wife and children to Farwell, Mich., and there engaged in handling merchandise. William Carpenter was the second of the three children who blessed the home of the parents. He spent the days of boyhood in attending the common schools of his home neighborhood, and later received a course of instruction in the High School, completing his studies with honors.

Mr. Carpenter later taught school, engaging in the vocation of an instructor for about one year. In the mean time he improved every available opportunity to increase his stock of knowledge by reading and observation, also by studying and reading law, and spent one year in Farwell. In the fall of 1870 he entered the State University and took a thorough course in the literary and scientific department, graduating with honor in the year 1877. Immediately upon the completion of his course in the University, Mr. Carpenter entered upon his duties as Principal of the High School of Alpena, Mich. During the following year our subject kept books, and also pursued his studies, and was more or less engaged in reading law until the year 1879, when he was admitted to practice at the Bar of the State. Later, entering the law department of the State University, Mr. Carpenter made still more extended preparation for his professional career and graduated from the law department in 1880, receiving his degree. Locating permanently in Muskegon, in the year 1887 he formed a partnership with Robert E. Bunker, and the firm entered upon a prosperous career, attaining to an enviable reputation and enjoying a large practice in all the courts of the State.

In the mean time, in 1881, William Carpenter was honored by an appointment to the Bench of the Probate Court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Wylie. Occupying the office with efficiency, our subject gave faithful service to the people of the county. For two years Mr. Carpenter discharged with ability the duties of City Attorney, and, in the year 1892 re-appointed, is now serving the general public in that capacity. In politics he is a Republican, and is prominent in the local councils of his party, and takes a

high place in city and State conventions, being recognized as a citizen of executive ability and clear judgment. December 26, 1883, were united in marriage William Carpenter and Miss Harriet Woodruff, of Farwell, and daughter of Henry Woodruff. Two daughters have brightened the pleasant home at No. 55 Peck Street. Our subject, financially prospered in the duties of his profession, is also engaged in outside interests and is Secretary and Treasurer of the Weighing-Truck Company. A self-made man, winning his own way upward, Judge Carpenter commands the confidence and high esteem of his fellow-townsmen and the general community of Muskegon County.



**A**LBERT MEARS, a leading merchant, extensive property-owner and oldest pioneer settler of Whitehall, was born near Boston, Mass., September 13, 1821, and was the youngest of the six children of Nathan and Lucy (Livingston) Mears. The Mearses were well known in New England long before the War of Independence, and the father was a direct descendant of an old Portuguese family. Nathan Mears was a manufacturer and hotel-keeper of the old Bay State, and, living within easy distance of Boston, was one of the wealthy men of his locality. Lucy Livingston, the mother, was of remote English ancestry, her forefathers having landed upon the shores of New England with other passengers of the "Mayflower." The parents of our subject both died while he was very young, and the family soon after scattered, the four brothers and one sister now living in Chicago. Albert went to live with the man appointed as his guardian and who looked after his interest in his father's large estate. Our subject, constantly in school, had at sixteen years received a liberal education, and in 1837 came to Michigan, to which State his elder brothers had preceded him. Edwin Mears, an enterprising man, early journeyed to the West, and, thoroughly patriotic, enlisted

during the late Civil War, dying in the hospital at Quincy, Ill., during his term of service. Charles Mears came to Michigan in the early '30s and located large tracts of land on White Lake and in different parts of the lake regions, in time becoming one of the most extensive lumbermen and prominent merchants of the Wolverine State. He located and laid out the town of Whitehall, then named Mears in his honor. He made a fortune in his business, and is now and has been for many years a resident of No. 345 Ohio Street, Chicago.

Nathan Mears was also one of the leading lumbermen of Michigan and still controls large interests in the State, also being a prominent Chicago capitalist, residing at No. 87 Cass Street. He is yet in active business, but his son mainly manages his extended interests. Lucy Mears married John Baldwin, a prosperous lumberman and heavy real-estate dealer, as well as a capitalist and money-loaner, of Chicago, where he died some years ago, leaving a large fortune. His widow makes her home at No. 3852 Lake Avenue. From 1837 to 1852, our subject continued in business in Whitehall, then called Mears, and in Paw Paw, being thoroughly successful in both places. In 1843, Albert Mears and Miss Mary Helen Turner were united in marriage. Mrs. Mears was born in Mexico, Oswego County, N. Y., May 6, 1824. Her father, Samuel Turner, born in the Empire State January 9, 1798, passed away in De Witt, Mich., October 23, 1848. The Turners date their history in this country back to the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. Grandfather John Turner was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and an uncle, Joseph Turner, was a soldier in the War of 1812. The father, Samuel Turner, was a wheelwright by trade and emigrated to Michigan in 1836, locating in Paw Paw. Mrs. Mears' mother, in maidenhood Miss Ann Griswold, was born in New York State February 17, 1798, and died in Sacramento, Cal., May 20, 1859. The Griswolds also date the arrival of their ancestors in this country from the landing of the "Mayflower."

Mrs. Mears, who was the eldest of the family, had four brothers and one sister. Edward A. Turner was born July 16, 1827. He journeyed to California in 1852, and died there July 15, 1860.

Henry T. Turner, born August 14, 1829, died in infancy. Charles R., born April 8, 1831, went to California in 1852, and there was lost sight of. Ann Eliza, the sister, born February 5, 1835, died March 10, 1844. Samuel F., born June 25, 1837, was a well-known miner of Nevada, and was killed by the caving in of his mine, July 17, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Mears, in company with a large party, consisting of a number of families, among whom were the brother and mother of our subject, crossed the plains to California. After a three-months trip they arrived at what is now Placerville. Mr. Mears, possessing a modest fortune left him by his father's estate, engaged in mining and invested in other ventures on the Pacific Coast with unprofitable results, and after leaving the larger part of his money in the Golden State, returned to Michigan, via the Isthmus, and engaged in the mercantile business in Whitehall. Since that time our subject has been continuously prospered and during the palmy days of the lumber business in Whitehall rapidly amassed a competence. After a time he gave the most of his attention to his mercantile interests, but has also continued in lumbering and various other enterprises. When Mr. Mears returned to Michigan in 1861, he began the handling of merchandise in the store at the foot of the street, and has remained in that old landmark ever since.

A public-spirited and energetic man, our subject was an important factor in building up and extending the interests of Whitehall. Including the Mears Hotel and other valuable property, he owns a large amount of real estate in Whitehall and the near vicinity of the village. Mr. Mears possesses one of the finest farms in the locality and has expended over \$20,000 upon its improvements. He finds much enjoyment in his beautiful twenty-acre lake, well stocked with fish. Our subject was one of the founders of the bank in Whitehall and was President and Vice-President of the bank, but for the past few years has simply been a stockholder and Director. Politically, Mr. Mears has been a Republican from the first day of that party's organization. He was the first Postmaster of Whitehall and has served with efficiency as Supervisor of the township, and as President of

the Village Board faithfully aided in local progress and needed improvements. Fraternally, our subject has for forty years been connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has been a representative in the Grand Lodge. He is admitted to be one of the best-posted Odd Fellows in the State, but is now demitted. He is also prominently connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, being one of the most highly valued members of that ancient order.

Mr. and Mrs. Mears were blessed by the birth of two children, both now deceased. George Albert, born January 27, 1849, died March 24, 1850. Helen C., born October 4, 1852, attained to adult age an accomplished and attractive young lady. She married David R. Hopkins, and bore him one child, Albert Mears Hopkins, who was born October 16, 1876, and died May 4, 1880. Mrs. Hopkins died March 4, 1882. Bereaved of their children and grandchildren, our subject and his devoted wife received the sympathy of many true friends. Mr. and Mrs. Mears upon January 26, 1892, celebrated their golden wedding, the magnificent entertainment being given at the Mears Hotel. This social occasion was a notable event in Whitehall, and among the beautiful souvenirs presented to our subject was a solid gold-headed cane, handsomely and fittingly engraved, and a valuable memento of the brilliant occasion. The host and hostess, who had for fifty years walked together side by side, received the hearty good wishes of a host of friends endeared by the association of many pleasant years.



**M**ARTIN V. PERLEY, who is foreman of the Hackley & Hume Lumber Company, of Muskegon, comes from the northeast corner of the Union, being a native of Cumberland County, Me. He was born July 23, 1838, and on the paternal side is of English descent, while on the maternal side he is of Irish an-

cestry. His grandfather, Abram Perley, was born in the Pine Tree State, and his father, George Perley, was also a native of Maine. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Hannah Low. She, too, was born in Maine, and was a daughter of Judge Low.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, knowing that it will prove of interest to many of our readers, for he is widely and favorably known in Muskegon County. His boyhood days were quietly passed in his native State, and at the age of twenty-one he obtained a position in the counting-room in the commission house of his uncle, Jonas H. Perley. The West, however, furnished attractions for the ambitious and enterprising young man, and in August, 1862, he came to Michigan, locating in Big Rapids. He formed a partnership with Charles Merrill, Jonas Perley and Thomas W. Palmer, under the name of Perley & Co. This firm engaged in the lumber business and the connection was continued for ten years, when our subject sold his interest and purchased a sawmill, which he carried on for several years.

In 1864 Martin Perley was united in marriage with Miss Ellen M. Ruddiman, daughter of George Ruddiman, one of the pioneer settlers of Muskegon. Their union was blessed with a daughter, Mary Ellen, who resides with her father at No. 303 Western Avenue. The mother was called to the home beyond in March, 1889.

In 1868 Mr. Perley was appointed County Treasurer of Muskegon County for a term of two years, and so acceptably did he fill that office that he was elected in 1870 for a term of two years. On leaving that position, he was employed for several years with the firm of Bushnell, Wallace & Reed in the lumber business, after which he was superintendent of the shingle mill of O. P. Pillsbury & Co. for two years. In 1882 he became foreman of the Hackley & Hume Lumber Company, with which he has since been connected. Mr. Perley is ever faithful to the interests of his employers and can therefore always command a good and paying position. He is alike true to every public and private trust, and his faithfulness and fidelity have won him universal confidence and esteem.

Our subject exercises his right of franchise in

support of the men and measures of the Republican party. He takes considerable interest in Masonry and is a member of Lowell Lodge No. 182, A. F. & A. M.; Muskegon Chapter No. 47, R. A. M.; and Muskegon Commandery No. 22, K. T. Educational, social and moral interests find in him a friend, and his support and co-operation are never withheld from any worthy enterprise.



**ISAIAH GOODENOW.** For more than a quarter of a century this gentleman has made his home upon the farm in Tallmadge Township where he still resides, and to the cultivation of which he devotes his attention. Upon coming to Ottawa County in 1866, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres, which he cleared and improved. As time passed by he added to his property until he became the owner of three hundred and ninety-three acres of fine land. He engages extensively in raising grain and also cultivates small fruits with considerable success.

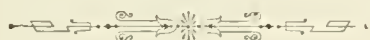
Born in Sandy Creek, N. Y., on the 1st of May, 1832, our subject is the son of Edward and Mary (James) Goodenow, natives respectively of New York and Wales. When Isaiah was six months old, his parents removed to Erie County, Pa., where the father followed agricultural operations until his demise, in 1852. Our subject was the third youngest child born to his parents, and in his boyhood was the recipient of such educational advantages as were afforded by the common schools of Erie County. He was an observing lad, thoughtful and studious by nature, and availed himself to the utmost of every opportunity of increasing his fund of information. Much of his time in youth was spent upon his father's farm, where he assisted in tilling the soil and garnering the grain.

At the age of twenty years, bereaved by the death of his father, our subject started out upon his own responsibility. He proceeded to Illinois, and for eleven years followed farming pursuits in Will



County, whence he returned to Pennsylvania and sojourned there for one year. Not finding things there as he had expected, he again sought a home in the West and came to Michigan, making the overland journey with a team. Arriving in Ottawa County in 1866, he settled upon one hundred and twenty acres where he now resides, and where, as above stated, he engages extensively in raising fruit and grain.

A very important event in the life of Mr. Goodenow was his marriage, which occurred in 1858, uniting him with Miss Gertrude Niskern. Mr. and Mrs. Goodenow were the parents of the following-named children: Cora, who is at home; Warren E., who conducts farming pursuits in South Dakota; Frank, May, Florence, Walter and Charles, who reside with their parents. They occupy positions of prominence in social circles, but are not identified with any religious organization, although Mrs. Goodenow was inclined toward the doctrines of the Lutheran Church during her life. She died March 7, 1892. As every public-spirited citizen should, our subject takes an active interest in the welfare of his community and contributes to its material progress. In politics, he is a Democrat, and always gives his support to the candidates of that party. Socially, he affiliates with Berlin Lodge No. 248, A. F. & A. M.



**T**HOMAS J. G. BOLT, a progressive, public-spirited citizen of Moorland and one of Muskegon County's large land-owners, was born in Devonshire, England, April 16, 1848, being the son of George W. and Jemima (Guscott) Bolt, natives of England. His father, who was a farmer by occupation, emigrated to America in 1857, and after sojourning in New York City about six months, he removed to Canada and settled near the city of London. In 1858, having sold his interests in Canada, he traveled extensively over the Western country with the view of looking up a suitable location for a home. He fi-

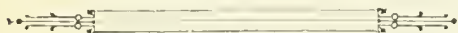
nally settled in Ottawa County, Mich., and there remained until death terminated his career in 1886. His wife, now eighty-three years of age (1893), resides on the old homestead in Ottawa County.

Of eleven children, nine of whom are now living, the subject of this biographical notice is the eighth in order of birth. He completed his education at Belmont, Canada, and Grand Rapids, Mich., and at the age of twenty-one commenced to teach school, continuing thus engaged for a number of years. He has taught twenty-one successive winters in Kent, Ottawa and Muskegon Counties, and, being a good disciplinarian, as well as a man of broad culture and extensive information, he has achieved the highest success in his profession. His interest in educational matters has been deep and unflagging, and his influence has done much toward elevating the standard of education in this community. He has served as Township Superintendent of Schools during the entire period of that office, and has also been School Inspector for a number of years and School Commissioner for two years in Muskegon County.

In 1875 Mr. Bolt was united in marriage with Miss Ola, daughter of Joseph and Harriet (Wyluss) Minnich, natives of Ohio. Three children were born of this union, Louis J., Ada F. and Lucius P., who are bright and intelligent, inheriting the studious qualities of their father. The daughter, at the age of eleven, received a first-grade teacher's certificate at Muskegon, and the sons are also well-informed and studious. In politics a staunch Republican, Mr. Bolt has for a number of years been prominently connected with all the political affairs of the county, and has been chosen by his fellow-citizens to represent them in various local offices of trust and responsibility. His popularity is proved by the fact that he has represented Moorland Township on the Board of Supervisors of Muskegon County for a period of ten years, during nine of which he received every vote in the township.

In regard to social connections, Mr. Bolt is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and for the past seventeen years has been a member of the Independent

Order of Good Templars. He is the possessor of five hundred and thirty-seven acres of farming land, the larger portion of which is well improved. In addition to his landed possessions, he is the owner of the comfortable and substantial residence he now occupies, and which he erected in 1892. His business career has been such as to win for him the confidence of his associates, and, socially, his genial, generous disposition has won for him a host of warm friends.



**H**ON. CHARLES L. BRUNDAGE. Few possessions are more valued and wished for than strength, but it is not generally considered that only through long, patient and continuous effort can it be attained. It is thought of rather as a happy accident, or a native gift to be passively grateful for, than as a natural and certain result of toil and striving. Bodily strength, for example, the infant gains through constant motion, the boy through active play, the man through toil and burden. This is equally manifest in moral and mental strength. The strong mind is one which has accumulated power through hard mental activity. Much earnest study, much effort of thought, have combined to give it that vigorous force and elasticity which to its possessor is so valuable a boon. We look with pleasure upon the man thus favored. We admire his clear thought, his sound judgment, his keen discrimination; we envy the ease with which he detects the points of an argument, or solves an intricate question, or applies a principle, but we do not see, and seldom even imagine, what toil and patience may have been the source of his admired strength. The one whom all men honor for his virtue and integrity, to whom wrong-doing offers no attraction, and who performs each duty as it arises, apparently without effort, has not gained this power by treading paths of ease. The obstacles overcome, the trials which have been so hard to bear, have called forth the fortitude and

heroism which are parts of every noble nature. It has come to him through effort and sacrifice, and the more it has cost, the greater the reward.

Hon. Charles L. Brundage, present State Senator for the Twenty-third District of Michigan, composed of Muskegon and Ottawa Counties, is a native of the Empire State, born in Bath, Steuben County, in August, 1830. He is the son of Matthew Brundage and the grandson of Abram Brundage, who was of English descent. Matthew Brundage was a native of the State of New York, and was a farmer by occupation. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Almedia Knickbocker, also of New York, and of Dutch descent. The original of this notice was the second son in a family of ten children born to his parents. He passed his youth in Allegany County, N. Y., where he secured a fair education in the common schools, and in 1849 attended Alfred Academy, afterward Alfred University, from which institution he was graduated in 1854. Following this he entered the State Normal, at Albany, N. Y., and was graduated in 1855. He then became Principal of the public schools of Angelica, N. Y., and was thus occupied for several years. In 1854 Capt. Brundage married Miss Frances A. Platt, of Allegany County, N. Y., but a native of Connecticut, and the daughter of Joseph Platt. Three children have been given them: Fred, a wholesale druggist in Muskegon, Mich.; Lottie, at home; and Anna, wife of Edward Latimer, of Muskegon. In 1862 he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Thirtieth New York Infantry, under Col. Alfred Gibbs, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. On the organization of the regiment in 1862 he was commissioned First Lieutenant, and on the 9th of November of the same year he was commissioned Captain of his company.

In 1863 the regiment was transferred to the cavalry and became the First New York Dragoons. Our subject continued to serve until 1864, when he was discharged on a surgeon's certificate for disabilities received in the services. Returning to New York, he was elected School Commissioner, a position he held for six years. In 1870 he was appointed railway postal clerk, running from Dunkirk to New York City, and held that posi-





*G. F. Outwaite*

tion for three years. The year 1874 found him located in Muskegon, Mich., where he embarked in the drug trade, which he carries on at the present time. The stock is always full and complete, pure, fresh, and of standard quality, embracing everything pertaining to a first-class drug store.

In his political views the Captain is a Republican, and his first Presidential vote was for Col. John C. Fremont, in 1856. He takes a deep interest in local, State and national politics. In 1892 he was elected State Senator, with a majority of eleven hundred and thirty votes on the Republican ticket, running about four hundred ahead of his ticket. While in the Senate, he served on a number of important committees. He is a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F., and is also a member of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R., being a delegate to the National Encampment at Detroit. For two terms he was a member of the Council of Administration of the Department of Michigan. He has a good, substantial residence at No. 80 Terrace Street.



**G**EORGE F. OUTHWAITE, a leading citizen of Muskegon, who entered into rest February 3, 1893, was for many years one of the prominent lumbermen of the Wolverine State, and held with fidelity various responsible positions of public trust. In 1872 he was elected City Recorder of Muskegon, and later refused a second term. In the fall of 1873 he was appointed County Superintendent of the Poor, and served for thirteen years in that official capacity to the great satisfaction of the general public, who thoroughly appreciated his excellent judgment and executive ability.

A native of the Wolverine State, our subject was born in Plymouth, Wayne County, December 28, 1836. His parents, John and Alice (Plews) Outhwaite, natives of England, were numbered among the pioneer settlers of Michigan, locating

in Wayne County when the greater portion of the State was yet a wilderness. George F. acquired a good education as the result of his own exertions, and may be properly termed a self-made man. He studied in the common and High Schools of Plymouth, and later took a commercial course in the Chicago Business College. In the mean time, March 31, 1859, he had removed to Muskegon, and after completing his studies in Chicago, returned to that city.

Mr. Outhwaite began life for himself, working for his brother and John Torrent in a small shingle mill, where he remained in the capacity of an employe until April, 1862. He then formed a partnership with his brother, the firm being known as J. R. Outhwaite & Bro. He, however, in the fall of the same year sold out his interest to his brother, and engaged upon his own account in the lumber and shingle business, which he prosperously conducted for a great many years. While holding his official positions, he continued in the lumber business, and gradually amassed a competence. He was a man of broad intelligence and liberal spirit, and as a citizen, energetic and enterprising, materially aided in the advancement of many of the vital interests of his home locality. Firm in his convictions of right and wrong, and decisive in action, he possessed sterling integrity of character, and commanded the esteem of all who knew him. He was politically a Republican and an ardent advocate of the party, giving his earnest efforts in behalf of the success of the principles in which he believed. Fraternal member of the Masonic order, he was a Knight Templar, and had a host of friends in that organization.

December 28, 1866, George F. Outhwaite and Miss Helen A. Reed were united in marriage. The estimable wife of our subject is a native of Grand Rapids, Mich., and is a daughter of Ezra and Catherine (Storring) Reed, both natives of New York State, the father having been born in Litchfield, and the mother in the Mohawk Valley. Mr. Reed was one of the pioneers of Grand Rapids, Kent County, which at the time of his settlement contained only five white families. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Outhwaite was blessed by the birth of a daughter, Blanche C., a charming and accomplished

young lady, who has been carefully educated, and is now a student in the University of Michigan, where she is pursuing a special course. Mr. Outhwaite resides in a magnificent residence of modern architecture, containing the latest improvements. The surroundings are beautiful, and the location, No. 39 Peck Street, one of the finest in the city. Eight months have come and gone since George F. Outhwaite passed away, but his memory as a sincere friend and true citizen will long live in the hearts of the many who knew and loved him.



**H**ENRY MILLER, an able business man, leading hardware merchant and successful general farmer, desirably located in Chester Township, Ottawa County, Mich., is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and was born January 29, 1834. He is the son of Christian and Barbara Miller, his mother having passed away in the Fatherland in 1849. The father married again in 1852 or 1853, wedding Miss Sophie Kober, also a native of Germany, with whom he emigrated to the United States in 1871, locating in Ottawa County, Mich., where he died in 1881, at the advanced age of eighty years. His last wife is yet surviving. By his marriage to the mother of our subject, Christian Miller became the father of four children: Michael, of Ottawa County; Henry; Fred, residing in Ottawa County; and Frederica, wife of Fred Ata, of this county. By his second marriage the father had three children: Barbara, wife of John Sehler, of Grand Rapids; Regina, wife of Benjamin Wildenburg, of Chester Township; and Christiana, widow of Robert Bauer, of Grand Rapids.

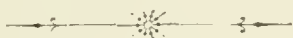
Henry Miller received his education in the public schools of Germany and was but fourteen years old when he began the work of life. He remained with his father, who was by occupation a farmer and nail-maker, until twenty years of age, and in 1854 emigrated to America. Landing in Buffalo, N. Y., with twelve shillings in his pocket, our sub-

ject laboriously worked six months to pay his board, and meantime studied ambitiously at home to learn the English language. In 1855, leaving Buffalo for the farther West, Mr. Miller journeyed to Grand Rapids, where, March 6, he was met by his brother Michael, who had preceded him to America by two years. For six continuous years our subject worked in Grand Rapids, doing heavy teaming, hauling wood and stone. He had reached there \$25 in debt but by patient toil had in 1860 amassed a small capital. At this period of time October 10, 1860, he removed to Chester Township, and located upon section 27, when this part of the country was almost entirely covered with a heavy growth of timber. Purchasing eighty acres of land, for which he paid \$650, almost his total savings, Mr. Miller erected a log house, in which he lived for some years.

When his wife, Mrs. Catherine (Fluhrer) Miller, with whom he was united in marriage in 1857, first saw her new home she wept, and our subject admits it must have looked a little cheerless to her, coming as she did from the city. As time passed on, however, the appearance of the farm and its surroundings rapidly changed. The timber, yielding to the steady strokes of the axe, gave cleared and fertile land, which, yielding to high cultivation, annually furnished a bounteous harvest and buildings large and comfortable arose, residence, barns and sheds.

Financially prospered, Mr. Miller now owns over one hundred and seventeen valuable acres, ninety-five acres of which are finely cultivated. He has also given to his children about one hundred acres of excellent land. In 1884, our subject went to Coopersville and engaged in farming for three years, and in 1888 returned to Conklin, where he erected the first store building in the village, and opened it to the public with a well-selected stock of farming implements. Succeeding beyond his expectations, he built in 1889 his present spacious store, 25x80 feet in size, constructed of brick, two stories in height, finely finished in modern style, and which cost \$3,000. As soon as the building was completed Mr. Miller stocked with a variety of farming implements and added a large line of hardware. Commencing business with a

modest capital, he now carries a complete stock of goods, valued at from \$7,000 to \$10,000, and transacts a business of from \$15,000 to \$25,000 annually, with ease supplying the increasing demands of one of the best trades in this part of the county. The estimable wife of our subject was a native of Germany and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Fluhrer. The pleasant home has been blessed by the birth of seven children: Elizabeth, the wife of Christian Dinkle, of Chester Township; Sophia, the wife of Henry Weldenberg, of Wright Township; George M., Jr.; Christian, deceased; Margaret B.; Henry, deceased; and Anna B., who completes the list of sons and daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are both valued members of the Lutheran Church and active in religious work. Our subject is, politically, a strong Democrat and has been a member of the Democratic County Convention. He was appointed in 1886 by President Cleveland the first Postmaster of the village of Conklin; for eleven consecutive years he ably discharged the duties of Township Treasurer, and for four years served faithfully as Highway Commissioner. In 1893, re-elected Township Treasurer, Mr. Miller is now with great acceptability holding the position of trust assigned him by his fellow-townsmen, who repose in him the highest confidence as a friend, neighbor and citizen.



**C**OLON C. LILLIE, President of the Coopersville Creamery Company, and a successful agriculturist of Tallmadge Township, Ottawa County, was born in this township January 6, 1860. His father, Joel B. Lillie, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and emigrated to Michigan soon after attaining his majority. Here he engaged in lumbering and worked in various places until he purchased the land upon which our subject now resides. To the improvement and cultivation of this place he gave his attention until the death of his wife in 1883, when he removed to Coopersville, and made his home in that village

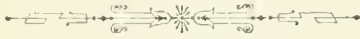
until his death, September 19, 1893. He was a man of wealth, and was the owner of a large brick and tile factory at Coopersville.

The mother of our subject was Sarah, daughter of Ammon and Annis Augur, who for many years resided in the State of New York, but afterward came to Michigan. Colon C. Augur, the uncle after whom our subject was named, is now on the list of retired army officers. To the marriage of Joel and Sarah Lillie there were born five children, two sons and three daughters. Edith S. married John M. Park and now resides in Wright Township, Ottawa County; Walter married Ella McGrath and makes his home in Grand Haven, this State; the third in order of birth is the subject of this notice; Emma E., who is unmarried, is a teacher in California and Annis M., who is the wife of William E. Baxter, lives in Los Angeles, Cal.

In his youth our subject received ordinary common-school advantages. At the age of twenty-one he entered the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing, where he remained for four years, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science, and gaining a practical education in farming. For four years he filled the position of Principal of the Coopersville schools, resigning it in order to accept the office of Commissioner of the county. He is the founder and President of the Coopersville Creamery Company, a flourishing enterprise which is established on a paying basis. At the present time he conducts the dairy department of the *Practical Farmer & Fruit Grower*, a popular agricultural paper published at Grand Rapids.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Lillie has represented Tallmadge Township upon the County Board of Supervisors, and has also officiated as County School Commissioner. While Secretary of the County Board, he introduced the graded system into the schools of the county, and as a result of his efforts the standard of education has been greatly advanced. In his social connections, he is identified with the Knights of the Maccabees and Coopersville Lodge, A. F. & A. M. His marriage occurred on the 26th of June, 1890, and united him with Miss Julia A. Lawton, a daughter of Albert and Mary A. (Loftus) Lawton. The young couple reside upon the old Lillie home-

stead, where Mr. Lillie cultivates two hundred and forty acres of the finest land in Ottawa County. Everything on his place is of modern improvement, and he raises large crops of wheat, corn, oats and hay.



**D**ANIEL M. ANGELL. Through the energetic prosecution of agricultural enterprises, Mr. Angell has become well known throughout Ottawa County as a successful farmer of Tallmadge Township. His farm ranks with the best in the county, and consists of one hundred and twenty acres, upon which has been placed a substantial set of improvements, including a commodious house and a number of outbuildings for the storage of machinery and the shelter of stock. The outward career of Daniel M. Angell can scarcely be called an eventful one. Averse to all display, he has sought neither distinction nor power, but in the rural home, surrounded by those he loves, he lives in comfort and serene content.

Born in Clinton County, N. Y., February 11, 1831, our subject is the second child in the family of Daniel and Olive (Wheeler) Angell, natives of New York. At the age of five years he accompanied his parents to Michigan, and settled in what is now Tallmadge Township, Ottawa County, where he grew to manhood. His entire educational advantages consisted of a short attendance at the common schools of Lamont, this county, and one term spent in a select school. However, through diligent effort, he has gained a good education, and may justly be termed a self-made man.

Remaining with his father until he reached the age of twenty-three, our subject then embarked in farming upon his own account, and for nine years pursued his chosen occupation on the south side of Grand River. Later he returned to the old homestead, and upon the death of his father in 1876 he assumed the management of the place, where he still makes his home. He carries on general farming, and raises wheat, corn, potatoes and small fruits. He has received little assistance from others,

and his success is due largely to his unaided exertions. He is a man of keen discrimination, foresight and energy, and displays excellent judgment in the management of his estate.

The lady who, on the 2d of September, 1854, became the wife of Mr. Angell was formerly Miss Cecelia Blakeney, and was born in New York, being the daughter of William and Susan (Powers) Blakeney, of Vermont. To this marriage there were born eight children, five of whom are still living, namely: Daniel M., who makes his home with his parents; Frances, Merton P., Velvia C. and Moses R., all of whom are still at home. In religious connections, both Mr. Angell and his estimable wife are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is the present Steward and one of the Trustees. Politically, he is a Prohibitionist, and votes the ticket of his chosen party at every election. He has served as Roadmaster and in other positions where his energy and ability have been instrumental in advancing the interests of the township and county.



**J**AMES HUTCHINSON, a leading business man of Michigan, an energetic and popular manufacturer of buggies, spring wagons, carriages, package and delivery wagons, has for twenty-four years been a prominent citizen of Muskegon, where his well-known factory—enjoying a large trade—annually supplies to the general public some of the finest specimens of vehicles ever used in road transportation. Our subject, a native of Canada, was born in Perth, Ontario, June 17, 1844. His father, James Hutchinson, Sr., likewise a native of the Queen's dominions, was reared and educated in Canada and, arriving at man's estate, married the mother of our subject, Ellison Easton, also born in Canada and the daughter of an old and highly respected family, the descendants of a long line of honored English ancestry. Our subject enjoyed excellent educational advantages, and attended school near Lon-



don, Canada, in which locality he passed the days of boyhood. He early began his preparation for a self-reliant and self-sustaining future by serving an apprenticeship to the trade of a blacksmith, and arrived at twenty-one years of age well fitted to begin the battle of life for himself.

In 1869, removing to the United States, Mr. Hutchinson journeyed to Muskegon, Mich., which city has since been his constant home. For a number of years he was variously employed, working mainly in lines of business connected with his trade, but finally, having some capital in money and a vast amount of enterprise, he embarked in his present manufacturing interests upon his own account. Beginning in a comparatively small way, our subject has with ability and unwearied devotion to business extended the facilities of his factory, which is now equal to the demands of a large and rapidly increasing custom; and the public by its patronage eloquently testifies to its satisfaction with the material and workmanship of the superior product of buggies and wagons which year after year successfully compete with those turned out by longer established and more pretentious houses. As a manufacturer, Mr. Hutchinson has achieved an enviable reputation and in the general conduct of his business has won the confidence of the public. His trade is not local but takes in a large territory, and the business, from the first an assured success, has in the past sixteen years developed into proportions far exceeding early expectations.

In January, 1873, in Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., were united in marriage James Hutchinson and Miss Abbie Doolan, a native of Vermont and a daughter of James Doolan, a highly respected resident of the Green Mountain State. The union of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the birth of a bright and intelligent family. Ella E., the eldest-born and only daughter, an accomplished young lady, is at home. The three youngest, William, Frank and John, are likewise with their parents, who reside in a beautiful residence, modern in architecture, convenient in design, and containing all the latest improvements. The handsome frame house located at No. 10 East Ionia Street is the abode of hospitality and witnesses the social gatherings of many friends.

Our subject is fraternally a valued member of Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M., and is likewise connected with the Foresters. Politically a Republican and interested in local and national government, he is not in any sense of the word a politician, but, doing his duty at the polls and assisting in matters of local enterprise, is accounted a substantial citizen and man of public spirit.



**O**RRIN D. BLANCHARD, a prosperous and well-known merchant of Casenovia, and for many years a prominent educator of Muskegon County, was born in the town of Barre, Orleans County, N. Y., March 17, 1844, being a son of Chandler and Lucy (Lindley) Blanchard. His paternal grandfather, Nehemiah Blanchard, was the son of Jeremiah, who belonged to a famous Huguenot family, of French origin. Grandfather Blanchard was born in New Hampshire, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. By trade a shoemaker, and by occupation a farmer, he was thus engaged in Monroe County, N. Y., and later in Genesee County, the same State. His death occurred in Murray, Orleans County, N. Y., September 13, 1848, at the age of seventy-four.

Grandfather Blanchard and his good wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Densmore, were the parents of twelve children who attained mature years, namely: Cummings, Chandler, Harbard, Willard, Julia A., Livonia, Lewis, Alman, William, Densmore, Orrin and Ira. Chandler Blanchard, father of our subject, was born in New Hampshire, September 19, 1800, and accompanied his father to New York. From Orleans County he removed to Michigan, and settled in Livingston County about 1840. After his marriage, which took place in Plymouth, Wayne County, he returned to the Empire State, where he departed this life August 23, 1859. In politics, he was first a Whig, and afterward a Republican. In religious matters, he was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

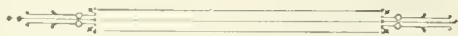
The mother of our subject was born near Lyons, N. Y., in 1819, and died February 15, 1861. She had a family of five children: Orrin D., of this sketch; Wesley, who enlisted as a private in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-seventh New York Infantry, and died on David's Island, October 18, 1864; Rosetta E., Nancy A. and Lelia C. Orrin D. received a district-school education, and at the age of twelve began to be self-supporting. May 11, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, Twenty-seventh New York Infantry, and with his regiment participated in the first battle of Bull Run, Gaines' Mill, and West Point, Va. Being captured at Gaines' Mill, he was imprisoned for forty-two days upon Belle Isle, in the James River. Later he took part in the engagements at Antietam, Fredericksburg, and in minor skirmishes. At the expiration of his term of service he was discharged, on the 1st of June, 1863.

In the fall of 1863, Mr. Blanchard went to Shiawassee County, Mich., where he attended school during the following winter. February 14, 1864, he enlisted as a member of Company L, Second New York Mounted Riflemen, and while in Washington was afflicted with rheumatism. He was taken to a hospital near Washington, where he remained for a short time. He rejoined his regiment on the 18th of June, at Petersburg, and participated in all the engagements of the army until the battle of Stony Creek, where he was wounded in the right hand and the right temple. For a time he was confined in Mt. Pleasant Hospital at Washington, and upon rejoining his regiment continued in active service until his discharge at Buffalo, August 25, 1865.

Coming to Michigan in the fall of 1865, Mr. Blanchard attended school during the following winter. He taught his first term of school in Ingham County, this State. In the spring of 1868 he went to Lisbon, where he worked on a farm during the summer, and in the fall of the same year accepted the principalship of a school in Casenovia Township. In 1878 he taught one term in Wilson County, Tenn., whither he went, hoping that the change of climate might benefit his wife's health. Altogether he has taught thirty-five terms. For a number of years during the summer season he

worked at the trade of a mason, and for seven years had a meat-market in Casenovia. In April, 1893, he embarked in the mercantile business under the firm name of O. D. Blanchard & Co., and is conducting a large and lucrative trade.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Blanchard has served as Justice of the Peace and as Superintendent of Schools. In his social relations he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic fraternity. He was first married to Miss Betsey Johnson, a native of Michigan, and two children were born of the union, Ernest C. and Bessie M. Mrs. Blanchard died April 13, 1879, at the age of thirty-four. The second marriage of Mr. Blanchard united him with Miss Ella A., daughter of Henry Bridger, of Shiawassee County, Mich. Mrs. Ella Blanchard died March 5, 1884, and afterward our subject married Mrs. Mary Peckham, who was born in Norway; her first husband was Henry Peckham, by whom she became the mother of one child, Carrie. She is a lady who occupies a high place in the regard of the people of this community, and her position is among the most cultured and refined of Casenovia's residents.



**P**HILIP FAHLING, an enterprising and successful general agriculturist, and son of the first German settler of Chester Township, Ottawa County, Mich., was born March 2, 1853, on the farm where he now resides, and is the only son of Philip and Elizabeth Fahling, both natives of Germany. The parents were married in the Old Country, but soon after emigrating to America located in Ohio, where they remained three years. From the Buckeye State journeying to the farther West with oxen, they came to Michigan, fording and swimming rivers on the way. Arriving in the Wolverine State in 1844, they two years later, in 1816, entered from the Government the farm of one hundred and sixty acres upon which they now live. The land was then heavily timbered.

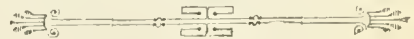
but, persistently worked upon, has been brought under a high state of cultivation, and to the original acres have since been added others, until the homestead now contains two hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, improved with buildings of a superior character, commodious, of modern architecture and finely arranged. When the parents located in Michigan the father had \$300 and the wife \$140, money which they had made in Ohio. The father, working on a farm for \$10 per month, had saved it all, and now, with Conrad Kritzer, made the first settlement in Chester Township. The first white child born in the township was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Fahlng, Margaret, now Mrs. Klink, of Alpine Township, Kent County.

When the Fahlngs located in Chester Township they were obliged to do all their trading in Grand Rapids, and as they had no horses the grist was brought upon their backs all the way home, there being no roads over which their oxen might have hauled the stuff. Their nearest neighbor was John Coffee, five miles south from their place. Desiring to fill their beds with straw, they were obliged to transport the same a long distance on their backs. The first shanty erected by Mr. Fahlng Mr. Kritzer assisted in putting up, as did also Adam Lachman, a young man who had accompanied them from Ohio. It was built in three days, no nails being used in the construction, with the exception of a few in the door. Mr. Fahlng and Mr. Kritzer with their families lived together three months, and then Mr. Kritzer built a similar house for his family. These early pioneers, enduring sacrifices and great privations, toiled unceasingly that their children might in the days to come reap the benefit. The father through incessant toil contracted consumption, and at the early age of forty-five years passed away, in 1860, leaving a widow and five children to mourn his loss. Two little ones had preceded him to the better land. Margaret, Mrs. Klink, is the eldest-born; Elizabeth is the wife of Chris Peters, of Casenovia Township, Muskegon County; Philip is our subject; Christiana, deceased, was the wife of Fred Rister, of Chester Township; and Mary, deceased, was the wife of John Mortz, of Big Rapids. The mother, married in 1862 to

Henry Ritz, resides in Sparta Township, Kent County, and by her second husband has one son, John, a citizen of Sparta Township.

Our subject was educated in the free and Lutheran schools of his home neighborhood, both his parents being of the Lutheran denomination. Reared to farming life and work, he was but eight years of age at the time of his father's death, and continued to live with his mother and stepfather until mature age, upon his twenty-first birthday purchasing one hundred and four acres of the old homestead on which he was reared.

Upon December 31, 1881, at the age of twenty-eight years, Philip Fahlng married Christina Rister, a native of New York and a daughter of Jacob Rister, who in the early days came to Michigan and here prosperously engaged in farming. Unto our subject and his estimable wife have been born three children: Mary, Philip, Jr., and Charley. Mr. and Mrs. Fahlng are both valued members of the Lutheran Church and are active aids in good work. Politically, our subject, as was his father before him, is a strong Democrat and an ardent advocate of "the Party of the People." Financially blessed with an abundance of this world's goods, Mr. Fahlng is ranked among the energetic and ambitious agriculturists of Ottawa County, and is recognized as a leading man of public spirit, ever ready to do his full share in all matters of mutual welfare and enterprise.



**C**URTIS PINTLER, one of the oldest and most highly respected settlers, a prominent horticulturist, and successful stock-raiser of Chester Township, Ottawa County, Mich., was born on the homestead where he now resides, November 3, 1847. He was the only son of John and Mary (Shaw) Pintler, natives of Orleans County, N. Y. The father and mother were married in the Empire State and emigrated to Michigan in 1815, journeying by way of Detroit and thence to Marshall. Arriving in Ottawa County they made

their permanent home in Chester Township, upon the old farm where our subject passed the days of childhood and has since continued to live. Buying a yoke of oxen for \$35, a wagon for \$8, and a cow for \$12, they hauled their few household effects through the woods over a blazed road never before crossed by a wagon. The father was obliged to take his axe and cut the brush before the oxen as they advanced, while the mother did the driving. Locating in 1845, John Pintler erected a shanty the latter part of the year, and upon January 3, 1846, moved into it. The new home, 10x16 feet, was built mostly of poles, such as the father could elevate from the ground, and in this primitive residence the husband and wife lived until a small clearing could be made and a more commodious and substantial house erected. In 1847 a large and comfortable log house was built, which became widely known as a convenient stopping-place for many years between Grand Rapids and Muskegon.

In 1846 Samuel Free and John Brooks, of Newaygo, started from this place to Grand Rapids and Newaygo to survey for a much-needed public road between these points. The road ran by the father's homestead and he assisted in blazing the trees and cutting down underbrush and laying the trail for the more advanced work to follow. This road is now known as the Grand Rapids and Newaygo State Road. For three years the parents kept a tavern, or half-way house, and in the fourth year after the road was opened to travel a man, Lot Fulkerson, opened a tavern where Casenovia stands. In the mean time the father was engaged in the cultivation and general improvement of his farm, which was constantly growing in value. He purchased the land warrant from a soldier in Detroit for \$33 and first located eighty acres, afterward adding forty acres, and fifty-seven acres he cleared prior to his death, planting out an apple orchard, which now yields abundantly. In 1847 the first postoffice of the township was established and John Pintler became Postmaster, the office being called Pintler's Corners, the name by which the locality was known for many years. Lawrence Mang carried the mail for one year on foot from Grand Rapids to Newaygo. The next

contract as carrier was given to Benjamin Wright, who took the pouch of mail on horseback. The first stage-coach passing Pintler's Corners was driven in 1855, and carried the mail, the contract then being held by Mr. McLinohan. Soon the passenger traffic began to improve and the hotel business boomed.

In 1863 the present attractive and roomy residence in which our subject now resides was erected, and on moving into this house the Pintlers ceased to keep a tavern. During the latter part of 1818 Lorenzo Chubb moved into "Pintler's Corners," the old place, and there kept hotel, the former interest of the business, held by the father of our subject, then being turned over to the newcomer. During these changing seasons the father occupied a position of importance and for twelve continuous years served ably as Justice of the Peace, and aside from various other township offices was for several years an efficient Supervisor. In every office with which he was honored John Pintler discharged the public duties thereto pertaining with the faithful ability which characterized his every work in life. A sincere Christian man and an upright citizen, the father was a member of the Close-Communion Baptist Church and ever threw his influence upon the side of truth and justice. The three children who made bright the home in the woods were Lucy A., deceased; Curtis; and Ellen J., deceased, who became the wife of Worthington Moe, a native of Middleville, Mich. The father passed away November 6, 1866, at forty-nine years of age, beloved and honored by all who knew him. The mother, a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, survived until 1879, and entered into rest at sixty-four years of age.

Our subject was educated in the common schools of the township and also received instruction in Grand Rapids. At the age of twenty years returning to the homestead he took charge of the farm. Mr. Pintler was heir to a half-interest in the homestead, and now owns thirty-eight acres of the old farm, thirty-six of his acres being devoted to fruit-culture; seven acres are in apples; twenty in peaches; one and a-half in plums; one in pears; one in grapes; and one in quinces. Our subject has also two hundred cherry-trees, a flourish-

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*Ed Behrens*

ing vineyard of four hundred grape-vines and a large quantity and variety of small fruit, which annually yield a handsome income. Mr. Pintler has no general agricultural interests but is a stock-raiser, profitably handling the Hambletonian and Clay breeds of horses. He also has high-grade cattle, three-fourths Jersey.

In 1868 Curtis Pintler and Carrie M., daughter of J. J. and Lydia (Shackelton) Smith, natives of England, were married. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were wedded in Canada, and in Woodstock the estimable wife of our subject was born. In 1863 Mr. Smith with his family removed to the United States and, a tanner and harness-maker, erected the first tannery built in Lamont, Ottawa County. He worked for some years in Grand Rapids, where he was widely known and highly respected. He died in 1883, at the age of seventy-three, his wife having died the previous year, 1882, aged sixty-three. They were both devoted Christian people and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The nine children who clustered about the family hearth of Mr. and Mrs. Smith were in the order of their birth: Elizabeth, wife of J. J. Nelland, of Grand Rapids; James H., a citizen of Muskegon; Cordelia, wife of F. W. Cook, of Eau Claire, Wis.; William J., residing in St. Johns; H. W., of California; Carrie M., Mrs. Pintler; Maggie M., wife of Dan Miller, of Alpine Township; Lydia M., wife of M. Rich, of St. Paul; and Florence A., wife of Rev. H. O. Lawrence, of Wells, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Pintler have been blessed by the birth of five intelligent and attractive children: Everett J., Minnie M., Nina M., George W. and Aleta. Mrs. Pintler and the three daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are active in the religious, social and benevolent work of their denomination. Mrs. Pintler is likewise a valued member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and is for the second year Treasurer of the local association, keeping the records and being the County Superintendent of Franchise. The accomplished wife of our subject is well known as a lady of superior executive ability and fine business attainments. Mr. Pintler is fraternally associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows No. 291, Industry Lodge, and Mt. Horeb Encampment,

now located at Casenovia. Without being in any sense of the word a politician, our subject takes a deep interest in both local and national issues and is esteemed a man of broad views and liberal sentiment in all matters pertaining to the general welfare.



**E**DWARD BEHRENS, one of the leading business men of Muskegon, is connected with C. D. Stevens as proprietor of the Muskegon Boiler Works. He well deserves representation in this volume, for he is an enterprising and public-spirited man, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life. He was born in New York City, on the 18th of December, 1847, and is a son of William and Willimena (Steinfeld) Behrens, who were natives of Germany. The father was a cabinet-maker, and in early life emigrated to New York City. His death occurred in 1854.

Our subject remained in his native city until after the death of his father, when he came West to Chicago, and was there educated. He lived for a time with P. W. Gates, of that city, and then with Thomas Turnbull, of Muskegon. In the spring of 1865, he came to this city, and was employed in the shops of Mr. Turnbull for some time. In 1878, he formed a partnership with Joseph Turnbull and Charles E. Woodward, and established the Turnbull Boiler Works. This connection was continued for five years, when the business changed hands. In the fall of 1889, Mr. Behrens went to Rhineland, Wis., and there built a sawmill, which he operated for a year.

In 1869, our subject married Miss Annie M. Peterson, a native of Canada, and a daughter of George M. and Susan (Emory) Peterson, the former born in Ontario, Canada, and the latter in New York. When their daughter was a maiden of thirteen summers they came to Muskegon, where the father died May 12, 1875, at the age of fifty-one years. Mrs. Behrens was educated in the schools of Canada and in Michigan. By her mar-

riage she has become the mother of three sons and two daughters: William Edward, a farmer; Emma J., Edna Blanche, Clyde Wesley, and Steinfeld, now deceased.

On his return to Muskegon in 1890, Mr. Behrens formed a partnership with C. D. Stevens and established the Muskegon Boiler Works. They manufacture steam-boilers, stand-pipes, etc., and are enjoying an extensive trade, which has constantly increased from the beginning, large orders coming from the West and South. They employ some twenty-five men. Their main building is 50x100 feet, and to it they have added a wing thirty-five feet square. They are now building a brick office near the shops. They also do rolling-mill work. This industry occupies a leading place among the enterprises of the city.

Mr. Behrens also owns one hundred and sixty acres of good land in Moorland Township, Muskegon County, of which one hundred acres are under cultivation, and he has four hundred sugar-maple trees. He makes a specialty of fruit-raising, having a large number of cherry, pear, peach and plum trees, and also many blackberry and raspberry bushes. He also has a herd of fourteen cattle and four horses, and the farm is considered one of the finest in the county. The owner is a Republican in politics, and a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W. His wife holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and both are numbered among Muskegon's leading and prominent citizens.



**M**ARSHALL C. KELLEY, an able and highly successful attorney-at-law of Muskegon, Mich., and who for the last five years has given his attention to loans and real-estate, for many years has been a constant resident of his present locality and intimately associated with its upward progress. Our subject was born in Gilmanston, Belknap County, N. H., September 21, 1840, and was the son of William Kelley, also a

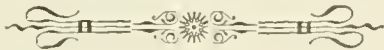
native of the same place where the paternal grandfather, Joseph Kelley, early settled with his good wife, and born in the same house. The paternal great-grandfather, Jacob Kelley, made his home in New Hampshire in 1771, and was one of the brave and patriotic soldiers of the Revolutionary War. The grandfather, born in the New Hampshire home, was a man of ability and earnest purpose. The mother of our subject, Elizabeth Osgood, born in New Hampshire, was the daughter of David S. Osgood, the maternal grandfather being the descendant of English ancestors who, crossing the broad Atlantic, settled in Massachusetts in 1638. The Osgoods are well known in the New England States, the family occupying positions of high usefulness and influence. The parents some years after their marriage removed from the Granite State to the city of Boston.

Mr. Kelley passed his early years in his birthplace, and there attended the district schools, but when eleven years of age accompanied his father and mother to their residence in Boston, and completed his studies in the excellent public schools of the latter city. Later, attracted by the broader opportunities of the West, the parents with their family journeyed to Illinois, locating in Will County, where the father found ready employment as a contractor and builder. Our subject, then seventeen years of age, taught school, meantime improving himself by study and reading. Finally deciding upon a professional career, Mr. Kelley read law with Judge G. D. A. Parkes and W. C. Goodhue, and was admitted to the Bar in 1865. He began the practice of the legal profession in Joliet, Ill., where he became a well-known and prosperous lawyer. He then moved to Wilmington, Ill., and in 1868 moved to Chicago. Previous to entering upon his legal studies, our subject had, in 1859, journeyed to the far West, and for three years devoted his time to mining in Colorado. He however preferred life in the East, and returning to his Illinois home then began the preparation for the business of his life. From the year 1865 to 1867, Mr. Kelley with efficiency discharged the responsible duties of City Attorney of Wilmington, Will County, Ill.

In 1868, our subject located in Chicago, where,



opening an office, he for the twelve succeeding years successfully conducted a law and real-estate business. In 1880, Mr. Kelley removed to Michigan, first making his home on White Lake, Muskegon County, but four years later settled permanently in the city of Muskegon, where he has built up a fine business, and, combining the practice of his profession with the handling of real estate, has achieved a competence. From 1887 until 1890, our subject was Secretary and Treasurer of the Muskegon Lumber Company, and has been identified with the numerous leading public interests of his present locality. In November, 1878, were united in marriage M. C. Kelley and Miss May S. Smith, a native of Wisconsin, and daughter of Rev. William J. Smith, of New York. Five children, four sons and a daughter, have blessed the union of our subject and his estimable wife. The brothers and sister are in the order of their birth as follows: William Ernest, Grace Osgood, Truman Lee, Marshall Royal (deceased), and Arthur Carroll. The pleasant family residence of Mr. and Mrs. Kelley is desirably located on Money Lake, a suburb of Muskegon, and is the abode of hospitality. Politically Mr. Kelley is a staunch Republican, and is well posted on all the vital questions of the day. Financially successful, he and his excellent wife occupy positions of social influence and possess a host of sincere friends.



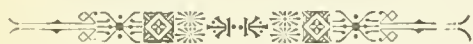
**J**OHN F. MCBRIDE, a long-time resident and prominent and prosperous business man of Muskegon, Mich., is the energetic junior partner of the successful shingle manufacturers, Strong & McBride, whose extensive factories turn out both pine and cedar shingles of excellent material and make. A self-made man, rapidly winning his upward way, our subject has, through unremitting attention to business and superior financial ability, gained a comfortable competence and now ranks among the moneyed men

of the county. Mr. McBride is a native of the Wolverine State and was born in Grand Rapids, Kent County, May 23, 1846. His parents, Rowland and Harriett (Biddulph) McBride, were natives of Ireland and, the descendants of an industrious and intelligent ancestry, received good common-school educations in the Old Country. The parents had before their marriage emigrated to New York, where they became acquainted and were married. The father and mother located in the State of Michigan when it was yet a comparative wilderness. At that time Grand Rapids was but a small village of a few inhabitants, and the parents were eye-witnesses of the wonderful growth and development of the State of Michigan.

The father of our subject was by trade a butcher, and, a pioneer of the West, was intimately associated with the early history of Grand Rapids, but late in life went to Wisconsin, where he died. He was a man of ability and sterling character, universally respected, and he possessed a valuable store of reminiscences of the primitive days in the forests and villages of the Wolverine State. Removing to Wisconsin, he made his home in Fond du Lac, and there in 1858 passed away. The mother, surviving her husband a number of years, entered into rest in Muskegon, Mich. John F. is one of four children, two sons and two daughters, who blessed the home of the parents. Our subject received his education in Grand Rapids and attended the common schools of his home district. Early in life beginning his career as a worker, he found employment near Grand Rapids, and for some time prior to attaining his majority labored in the mills. He later spent some years on a Kent County farm and engaged in the pursuit of agriculture with excellent results, but finally entered into other lines of business and was variously engaged for some length of time, becoming practically acquainted with the handling of lumber from its felling, sorting and piling, until, entering the mill, it became a staple article of manufacture, and was distributed again to different markets and wholesale purchasers.

For some years Mr. McBride was a lumber inspector in Muskegon. In 1889 he entered into partnership with Jaman E. Strong in the manufac-

ture of pine and cedar shingles, and this partnership, now enduring for four years, has been prospered beyond all expectations. The machinery in use in the factory is the best extant, and the ten-block rotary machine turns out an immense product annually. In 1878 Mr. McBride married Miss Hannah E. Crane, a most estimable lady and the second daughter of Curtis Crane, a successful contractor. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McBride, one son and three daughters: Jessie E., Glenn F., Ethelyn F. and one not yet named, promising and attractive young people, who have a bright future before them. The pleasant family residence, located at No. 512 Lake Street, is in the Eighth Ward of the city and is surrounded by handsome homes. Politically a Republican, our subject is not an office-seeker, but, intelligently interested in the questions of the day and well posted in the vital issues of local and national government, is a true citizen, ably assisting in all matters of mutual welfare. He is highly esteemed by a host of old-time friends, who thoroughly appreciate the business ability and sterling integrity of character which have distinguished the career of Mr. McBride from his earliest manhood.



**H**OBBY BROWN, the faithful and efficient Sergeant of the night force of police, Muskegon, Mich., has with ability for several years held his present responsible position, and, occupying various offices of trust, has long been identified with the public work of the city. Our subject, a brave veteran of the Civil War, who entered the service of the Government before attaining his majority, is a native of the village of Greenwich, Fairfield County, Conn., born August 9, 1842. His father, Henry H. Brown, also born in Connecticut, in which State he passed his entire life, was the descendant of a long line of honored New England ancestry, the paternal grandfather, James Brown, having likewise been reared, educated and married in Connecticut, where

at a good old age he entered into rest after a long life of usefulness. The mother, Susan (Rascoe) Brown, was a native of Connecticut, and in her peaceful New England home trained her children to self-reliant independence and instilled into them a patriotism true and fervent. Our subject, remaining with his parents, spent the days of boyhood in Fairfield and enjoyed the benefit of a good common education in the public schools of his home locality. At the first rumor of war Mr. Brown resolved to enter the army, and upon December 29, 1861, enlisted in Company C, Thirteenth Connecticut Infantry, commanded by Col. Berge, later known as Gen. Berge.

The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Gulf under Gen. Butler, and participated in the battles of Irish Bend, Port Hudson, Grand Ecore, Pleasant Hill and Cane River. Our subject likewise took part under Gen. Sheridan in the engagements in the Shenandoah Valley, at Winchester, Fisher Hill and Cedar Creek, and having with faithful courage served bravely four years, five months and twenty-eight days, was mustered out at Hare Island in May, 1866. Mr. Brown then returned to Connecticut, but some time later deciding to try his fortunes in the West, in 1868 journeyed to Michigan and settled in South Haven, Van Buren County, where he industriously engaged in the pursuit of farming for eleven years. At the expiration of this length of time our subject removed to Muskegon and began working in the lumber regions. In 1884 he was appointed a policeman for one year, and afterward served with ability as Deputy Marshal for a twelvemonth. For the past seven years Mr. Brown has held his present position to the entire satisfaction of the general public. Politically an ardent Republican, our subject takes an active interest in local and national issues, and, a man of observation, is intelligently versed in the vital questions of the day.

In 1868, Hobby Brown and Miss Ora J. Swift were united in marriage. The estimable wife of our subject is a native of New England and was born in Connecticut, a daughter of Reuben Swift, also born in Connecticut, in which locality the paternal grandparents settled early in the history of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Brown reside in a hand-

some frame residence of modern architecture, containing the latest improvements, and situated at No. 170 Pine Street, Muskegon. Fraternally, our subject is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is a member of the Maccabees. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen, and affiliates with Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R. He is a charter member of Zach Chandler Post of South Haven, and has a host of friends among these various orders and especially enjoys the re-unions of the Old Veterans, who recall the experiences of the days when, side by side, the tried and true fought for the preservation of national existence. To-day as then, Mr. Brown is a loyal citizen, ever ready to do his share in all matters of general welfare.



**H**ENRY B. SMITH, the enterprising wholesale and retail grocer, located at No. 146 Ottawa Street, Muskegon, Mich., commands one of the best lines of custom in his part of the State, and, carrying a complete stock of choice goods, foreign and domestic, is enabled to supply the demands of his large and rapidly increasing business with prompt service, appreciated by all who deal with him. Our subject was born in Holland, Europe, October 14, 1848, and was the son of B. H. Smith, also a native of Holland and the descendant of honest and hard-working people, who lived and died in the same province of the Netherlands. The mother, Jane Van Oosting, also a Hollander by birth, was reared, educated and married in her native land. In 1853, the father with his family bade adieu to the familiar scenes of the Old Country and sailed for America, where, arriving safely, he found ready occupation as a shoemaker and also handled merchandise. Henry B. was a little lad four years of age when he made the voyage across the Atlantic, and his first home upon our hospitable shores was in the city of Paterson, N. J., where he attended the district schools and later began the daily work of life.

Entering in boyhood a cotton factory, Mr. Smith gave five years to that work, and later spent one year in a woolen factory. Afterward learning the trade of a painter, he engaged in that occupation with profit for twelve years. In 1869, our subject journeyed to the West and, settling in Muskegon, continued in the painting business until 1879, when he embarked successfully in his present line of trade. Mr. Smith has a fine store, especially adapted to the needs of his business. The building, 224x70 feet and two stories in height, is well lighted and conveniently arranged, each department, wholesale and retail, carrying a full line of fine and staple goods. Financially prospered, our subject has invested in valuable real estate, and in addition to his other business is engaged in the handling of both inside and outside properties, being considered authority in values and possibilities of future advancement. Intimately associated with the leading interests of his home locality, Mr. Smith has long been identified with the Chamber of Commerce of Muskegon, and is a stockholder in the Muskegon Milling Company, of which he was the chief organizer.

Fraternally, our subject is associated with Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F.; Davis Encampment No. 47, I. O. O. F.; and is a member of Rebecca Lodge No. 124, I. O. O. F.; he is also connected with Muskegon Canton No. 6, I. O. O. F., Muskegon Tent No. 56, K. O. T. M., and Muskegon Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W., and among these various orders has a host of sincere friends. Politically a Republican, and ever deeply interested in both local and national government, Mr. Smith is in no sense of the word a politician, but is content to do his duty as a loyal American citizen at the polls.

In 1869 were united in marriage Henry B. Smith and Miss Gertrude Wierengo, daughter of William Wierengo, a native of Holland, who many years ago emigrated to this country. Five children, four sons and one daughter, have blessed the pleasant home. William is the eldest-born; then follow Bernard, Marion, Edward and Harry. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are valued members of the Congregational Church and liberally aid in religious work.

In their pleasant home, No. 188 South Terrace Street, Muskegon, they enjoy the comforts and luxuries of life and hospitably receive a wide circle of acquaintance, whose high regard they have long possessed.



**WARREN F. ODION**, a prominent citizen, leading agriculturist and stock-raiser of Cedar Creek Township, Muskegon County, Mich., is interested in the handling of blooded Jerseys and Shropshire sheep, and, for many years intimately associated with the progressive interests of his locality, has held with efficient discharge of duty many offices of trust. Mr. Odion, one of the early settlers of the near vicinity of Twin Lake, was born in Genesee County, N. Y., February 21, 1811. His parents, Samuel and Abigail (Peck) Odion, were natives of New England, the father hailing from Vermont, the birthplace of the mother being Connecticut. Samuel Odion was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and located in Michigan in 1866, his wife two years later, in 1868, passing away in her new home. The father and mother reared a family of eight children. Darius, the eldest, is now deceased; Emiline, deceased, was the wife of M. Kelsey; Lorinda is the widow of A. Lounsberry; Abigail married A. Buell; W. F. is our subject; Robert C. resides in Batavia, N. Y.; Sarah is the widow of William Peck; and Esther married James Hiscott. Our subject, educated in the common schools of his native State, at eighteen years of age acquired the trade of a carpenter and joiner and followed the occupation of a builder until the breaking out of the Civil War.

In 1862, Mr. Odion enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-first New York Infantry, and, attached to the Army of Virginia, participated with bravery in the various battles of the long campaign, taking an active part in the battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House,

Cold Harbor, Hanover Court House, North Anna River, Reams' Station, Frederick City, Md., Snickers' Gap, Va., and siege of Petersburg. During the latter siege, which lasted from the fall of 1864 until the 2d of April, 1865, our subject received a gun-shot wound in the right shoulder while engaged in one of the most hotly contested charges made by the rebel forces. Mr. Odion was inside the works when shot, and was at once conveyed to the hospital of City Point, Va. At the expiration of a month he was transferred to Lincoln Hospital, Washington, D. C., where he was obliged to remain until the 1st of June. Mr. Odion then returned home upon a furlough, and was mustered out of the service of the Government in Elmira, N. Y., July 5, 1865, having for two years and eleven months given faithful service. He received only one serious wound, although engaging at close quarters in ten regular battles and numerous skirmishes. Entering the army as a private, our subject retired to civil life with a gallant record as a non-commissioned officer.

After a brief visit to the home of his childhood, Mr. Odion, in 1866, located on his present homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, of which sixty acres are now highly improved. On March 20, 1871, Warren F. Odion and Miss Ellis Crocker were married and settled on the farm where they yet reside, and where they reared their three children, of whom William, the eldest, is attending school at Big Rapids, Mich.; Archie B. is at home; and one is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Odion are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject is District Steward, and is likewise Superintendent of the Sunday-school. Fraternally, he is an honored member of Whitehead Post No. 342, G. A. R. Politically a Republican, he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, when the lamented President was making his second race. Active in local politics and frequently a member of the Republican County Committee, Mr. Odion has, to the great satisfaction of his fellow-townsmen, held the offices of Township Supervisor, Township Clerk, School Inspector for ten or fifteen years, and in 1892 was elected Justice of the Peace, for four years; he is now one of the County Superintendents of the Poor. In 1883 he secured

the location of the postoffice at Twin Lake and, appointed the first post-master, resigned in 1886 and devoted himself more closely to the demands of his private business. Our subject is, and has long been, actively interested in the needed improvements and enterprises of his locality, and, one of the most influential men in this part of the county, is worthy of the confidence and esteem rendered him by the entire community among whom he has passed so many busy years.



Jane Peaks, the widow of Samuel Peaks, who died in the army. This estimable lady still survives.

In the spring of 1850, Mr. Johnson, Sr., emigrated to America, and after a voyage of eleven days landed in the United States. He arrived in Racine, Wis., on the 1st of July, and there embarked in the business of shipping wood to Chicago, also working at the trade of a mason. In England he engaged in merchandising, and also owned a fifty-acre farm. In 1860 he came to Muskegon County, where he located on section 20, Casenovia Township, and began the work of clearing one hundred and sixty acres which he had purchased prior to removing hither. Later, disposing of this property, he removed to Newaygo County, where his death occurred in April, 1867. Politically, he was a Republican, but not active in public affairs. In his religious convictions he had been a member of the Church of England in his native land, and after coming to America became identified with the Episcopal Church.

At an early age our subject was brought to America by his parents, and he grew to manhood amid the pioneer scenes of Wisconsin and Michigan. On the 4th of January, 1863, he enlisted as a member of Battery B, First Michigan Artillery, and participated in the campaign of Gen. Sherman in the South, taking part in the battles of Resaca, Rome Cross Roads, Etawa River, Rome, Dallas, Chattahoochee River and Atlanta. He followed Gen. Hood back to Huntsville, Ala., and afterward marched to Macon, Savannah, Columbia, Bentonville and other Southern cities, where he met the foe on many a bloody battlefield. At Creswellville, Ga., he was wounded in the right hand. He took part in the Grand Review at Washington, June 14, 1865, and was afterward discharged at Detroit, Mich.

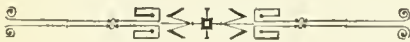
Returning home, he engaged in farming pursuits on sixty acres situated on section 21, Casenovia Township. In 1872 he commenced to work at the trade of a mason, which he followed for twenty years in connection with agricultural pursuits. In 1886 he sold his farm, and, coming to Casenovia, has since made his home in this village. In July of 1890 he engaged in the furniture business, in which he met with success from the in-

**J**OHIN E. JOHNSON, now a prominent business man of Casenovia, and for years prominently identified with the farming interests of Muskegon County, was born in Northumberland County, England, in the village of Allendale, April 22, 1844. His paternal grandfather, John Johnson, was likewise a native of Allendale, and throughout his entire active life engaged in farming pursuits. He and his good wife reared three sons and two daughters, namely: William, a resident of Platteville, Wis.; Edward, who makes his home in Melbourne, Australia; John A., the father of our subject; Ann, who married, and died in California; and Mrs. Hannah Short, who died in England.

A native of Northumberland County, England, the father of our subject first opened his eyes to the light of day in 1813. In England he married Miss Deborah Hunter, and they became the parents of seven children. William, their first-born, enlisted in Company D, Eighth Michigan Infantry, and after serving for one and one-half years was honorably discharged. On the 26th of March, 1867, he was killed by the falling of a tree upon his body. Ann died in girlhood at Racine, Wis.; Hannah passed away in Wisconsin; Mary, Mrs. William Bettis, and Betsey, Mrs. O. D. Blanchard, are also deceased. The other two children born of this union are Jasper and John E. The wife and mother died in August, 1864. The second marriage of Mr. Johnson, Sr., united him with Mrs.

ception of the enterprise. He has served as President of the village and as Alderman, being one of the prominent members of the Republican party at this place. Socially, he is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Knights of the Maccabees.

June 18, 1866, Mr. Johnson married Arminda, daughter of Cornelius and Emeline (Hilton) Bonter, natives of New Jersey and Livingston County, Mich., respectively, who now reside in Missouri. Four children were born of this union: Myrtia; Selden C.; Frank, who died at the age of four; and Eddie. The wife and mother died May 17, 1886. The present wife of Mr. Johnson was formerly Margaret Colman, and is a lady of noble character, who has proved a devoted helpmate to her husband. Mr. Johnson is exact and scrupulous in his business relations. His word or promise in any transaction is taken without hesitation. In like manner, he exacts the proprieties of life from all with whom he comes in contact. In his view the highest citizenship is comprehended in the morality, enterprise and integrity of the people. A public-spirited man, his gifts to public and religious institutions have been frequent and generous. He gives to the churches, to the poor, to public and individual enterprises, and he is as unostentatious in his beneficences as he is in person and manner.



**N**ELS P. NELSON, a prominent citizen and popular Street Commissioner of Muskegon, Mich., and for a quarter of a century a leading factor in the promotion of enterprise, has during these changing years occupied with honor and fidelity to trusts involved various city and county positions. In 1880 elected Alderman from the First Ward, he served two years as a City Father, vigorously aiding in the forwarding of needed local improvements and materially advancing numerous public enterprises. In 1886 elected Sheriff of Muskegon County, and in 1888 re-elected to the

responsible position by a handsome majority, Mr. Nelson was ever equal to the trying demands of the office, and by his prompt discharge of duty gave universal satisfaction to the general public. In 1892 appointed Commissioner, and in 1893 re-appointed, he is now handling this branch of the city work in a thoroughly practical and energetic manner, which from the first has won the high commendation of his fellow-citizens. Our subject, a native of Norway, was born near Christiana, August 26, 1848. His father, Peter Nelson, also born in Norway, passed his entire life in his native land, dying in 1873. The mother, Anna Nelson, likewise a lifetime resident of Norway, entered into rest in 1860. The father and mother, industrious and upright people, reared and educated six children.

Our subject, spending the days of boyhood in Norway, attended the common schools of his native land and was likewise trained in habits of intelligent thrift. At sixteen years of age he self-reliantly resolved to try his fortunes in the world of promise beyond the sea. Safely crossing the Atlantic, after a long voyage he landed in Quebec. He made no stay in the Canadian Dominion, but, journeying to the United States, went to Illinois and for a twelvemonth made his home in Chicago. The succeeding year locating in Manistee, Mich., our subject worked in the lumber region for two years. July 5, 1867, Mr. Nelson came to Muskegon and received employment in the lath-mill of Bigelow & Co., continuing in the same business for the succeeding fifteen years. In 1882 Mr. Nelson, in partnership with Martin Birch, engaged in the meat business, under the firm name of Nelson & Birch, and, remaining in this line of trade, also conducted a general merchandise business on his own account. A stalwart Republican and an ardent advocate of the principles of the party, our subject has been prominent in the local councils, and as the candidate of the Republican ticket has won in the official race.

Fraternally connected with the Lowell Moore Lodge No. 182, A. F. & A. M., also a member of the chapter, council and commandery, our subject likewise affiliates with the Scandinavian Tent of the Maccabees. He is a member of Muskegon





*John Eckhoff*



Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W., and belongs to the Modern Woodmen, and in these various societies numbers a wide acquaintance and many friends. March 21, 1872, Nels P. Nelson and Miss Synava Johnson, of Muskegon, were united in marriage. Ten years later the estimable wife passed away, leaving to the care of her husband one son and one daughter: Anna, deceased; and Fred. February 21, 1883, our subject wedded his present wife, Emma O. Holthe, of Muskegon. Two sons, Alvin H. and Carlton Lester, bless the second union. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside in a handsome residence at No. 108 Lake Street and are both valued members of the Lutheran Church, aiding liberally in its support and the extension of religious influence. Respected by all who know them, they are ever ready to assist in the good work and benevolent enterprises of their locality, and our subject as a public man, a friend and neighbor enjoys the confidence of his fellow-citizens throughout Muskegon County.



**J**OHAN ECKHOFF, one of Crockery Township's progressive agriculturists and a representative farmer of Ottawa County, was born in Germany on the 20th of December, 1835. His parents, John and Margaret (Ehlers) Eckhoff, were both natives of Germany, and there resided until death. A tailor by trade, the father followed that occupation for many years in his native land, accumulating a goodly store of the material blessings of this world through diligent effort and perseverance. He and his wife were honorable and upright in their relations with all whom they met, and were prominent in the Evangelical Church, of which they were devoted members.

The second of a family of five children, the subject of this biographical notice was educated in Germany, where he remained until he was twenty-two years of age. Emigrating thence to the United States, he proceeded at once after landing to Michi-

gan, where he settled in Ottawa County and has made his home here ever since. Soon after the opening of the Civil War, his sympathies, aroused on behalf of the Union, and with all the ardor and zeal of a native-born son of America, he enlisted as a member of Company G, Twenty-first Michigan Regiment, the date of his enlistment being August 11, 1862. For two years and eleven months he served with conscientious devotion, and at the close of the war he was honorably discharged, July 5, 1865.

Among the engagements in which Mr. Eckhoff participated may be mentioned the battles of Perryville and Stone River. In the last-named engagement he was wounded in the muscles of his left arm, and at the same time was taken prisoner, being conveyed to Murfreesboro, Tenn., on the last day of the year 1862. On the 3d of January, 1863, he was paroled, but was unable to leave the hospital for some time thereafter. Upon his recovery he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, in which he served until the close of the war. On account of the wounds received while in service, he is granted a pension of \$8 per month by the Government.

Very soon after his return from the war, Mr. Eckhoff established domestic ties, being married August 31, 1865, to Miss Margaret Simms, who was born in Germany. The union has resulted in the birth of eleven children, as follows: John Henry, Fred W., Andrew E., Mary M., Charles M., Henriette L., Anna A., Lewis A., Minnie D., Jessie C. and Archie L. In the fall of 1865, a few weeks after his marriage, Mr. Eckhoff purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of unimproved land in Crockery Township, and here he has since made his home, meanwhile clearing the land and placing it under a high cultivation. The place is pleasantly located within five miles of Spring Lake.

Since casting his first Presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, Mr. Eckhoff has uniformly maintained the principles for which the Republican party stands. He has served Crockery Township as Highway Commissioner and has also officiated as Constable. In his social connections, he is identified with the Grand Army of the Re-

public, being a member of the post at Nunica, No. 136. He is also a member of Spring Lake Lodge No. 234, A. F. & A. M. With his wife he holds membership in the Evangelical Church, and is prominent in all the benevolent enterprises originated by that denomination.



**H**ON. JOHN W. NORRINGTON. There is an obscurity in the game of life that to the robust mind is always attractive. The important uncertainty of the final outcome, its value to all, serves as an incentive to great deeds. To push forward and win the battle is the one common impulse and ambition of humanity. But in this vast concourse of struggling warriors, the number who achieve success is comparatively small, and in the majority of instances is confined to those who by reason of family inheritance or extended learning have a far better start than their fellows. Without these qualifications success is rarely attained, but when it is, the fortunate being is invariably the possessor of an indomitable will, untiring energy and an unusual amount of native shrewdness and ability. Such a man is John W. Norrington, the subject of this sketch, who is the present representative of Ottawa County in the Legislature.

Mr. Norrington is a native of Berkeley County, W. Va., born July 28, 1848, and the son of William and Mary (Hedges) Norrington, natives respectively of South Carolina and Virginia (now West Virginia). Both families came originally from England, the Norringtons settling in South Carolina and the Hedges in Annapolis, Md., and members of these families served in the War for Independence. William Norrington was a farmer by occupation, and his death occurred in West Virginia, on the farm where he settled directly after marriage. There his wife also passed her last days. At the commencement of the Civil War he was a county official and a staunch Union man. To his marriage were born seven children. The first died

in infancy; Mary E., wife of Andrew T. Harper, was born October 3, 1846, close to the old homestead; John W. is next; William L., born October 1, 1850, resides in Seattle, Wash.; Martha J., born July 3, 1852, died November 8, 1853; Sarah V., born January 14, 1855, married H. R. Smith, and resides in South Dakota; and Joseph E., born September 28, 1857, resides on the old homestead in Berkeley County, W. Va.

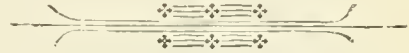
John W. Norrington was reared to farm life, and in his boyhood days attended the subscription schools, continuing in the same until the breaking out of the Civil War. In 1865 he attended the first free school in the county, and in the winter of 1867 entered the High School of Odin, Ill. When fifteen years of age our subject started out for himself, and his first move was to enlist in Company C, Third West Virginia Cavalry, under Capt. Peter Tabler. He was in the battle of Wytheville, Va., on Hunter's raid and at Lieksburgh; then his command went to the Shenandoah Valley and fought at Winchester. The next engagement was at Shepardstown, then Chambersburg, where heavy skirmishing was done, but the hardest engagement took place at Morefield, W. Va. After this he was at Winchester, Fisher's Hill, Mt. Jackson, Port Republic and Cedar Creek, where Gen. Sheridan made his famous ride. For a short time they were in winter quarters at Camp Russell, after which they went on the Gordonsville (Va.) raid. On the 27th of February, 1865, they broke camp and started for White House Landing. The first engagement was at Waynesboro and there the Third Brigade made the celebrated charge. This charge was made by Col. Caphart, and three hundred wagons of Gen. Early's wagon train were captured. The next battle was at Charlottesville, and then Petersburg, and from that time on it was a continual engagement until the surrender of Gen. Lee. The hardest-fought battle during this time was at Sailor Creek, where Gen. Custer made three charges before he was successful and captured Brig.-Gen. Lee and Gen. Ewell, of the Confederate army. Five Forks was the next engagement in which our subject participated. During his service Mr. Norrington was slightly wounded at the battle of Moorfield, and was captured by Gen. Mosby

at Bunker Hill, Va. Five other men were captured at the same time, but they succeeded in overcoming their guards and made their way to their own camp on the opposite side of the river, taking the Sergeant along with them. Mr. Norrington was discharged at Wheeling, W. Va., on the 30th of June, 1865, and left camp July 10 of the same year.

Returning home, Mr. Norrington remained there for a short time and attended school. On the 1st of March, 1869, he started to Kansas, but spent the summer in Weston, Mo. In the fall he went to what was then Howard County, now Chautauqua County, Kan., where he took up land close to what is now the town of Peru. This town was located by our subject. Mr. Cutler and several others, and Mr. Norrington assisted in digging the first well and building the first house, which was a log structure. The latter was given to a man to put a stock of groceries in. On the organization of the county, Mr. Norrington was elected Township Trustee for the south half of the county, called Belleville Township. Often Mr. Norrington would take a day's provisions and a blanket and pony and make a two-days trip, camping out wherever night overtook him. He was re-elected the next year, but resigned and came to this State in 1871. The following spring he returned to Kansas and remained there until 1875, when he came back to Michigan. The following year he embarked in the grocery business at Plainwell, Allegan County, Mich., but since then he has been engaged for the most part in farming.

In 1885 he was elected Township Supervisor and re-elected for seven successive years. In 1891 he made the race for Register of Deeds on the Republican ticket but was defeated by one hundred and seventy votes, Charles Ingraham fusion. In 1892, in the November election, he was made Representative over Jacob Barr, Democrat, by two hundred and thirty-nine votes. Mr. Norrington was a member of the Labor Committee, Election Committee, and a member of the State Public School Board at Coldwater, Mich. February 10, 1869, he was married to Miss Joana Barlow, a native of Michigan, born near Ypsilanti, and the daughter of George O. and Joana (Williams) Bar-

low. Mr. Barlow resides in this county, but his wife died on the 1st of January, 1893. They were the parents of eleven children, ten of whom lived to be grown: Margaret, who is the wife of Rev. W. Wilson; John, deceased; Mary, wife of James Chelson; Addie, wife of Mr. Boyce; Sem E.; Elisha; Joana, wife of our subject; Hana, widow of M. Sweetland; Nancy (deceased), who was the wife of John Snell; Elexie, wife of David Lick; and George O. To our subject and wife have been born three children: Emery H., born May 12, 1871, and who died March 26, 1873; Nova Z., born November 12, 1873; and William O., born March 31, 1877. Mrs. Norrington is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Socially, Mr. Norrington is a member of Ottawa Lodge No. 46, I. O. O. F., the Grange, and William Thurkettle Post No. 388, G. A. R., at Allendale Center.



**H**ON. ELIAS W. MERRILL, a retired lumberman and real-estate dealer of Muskegon, was born in Cumberland County, Me., October 2, 1812. He traces his ancestry to England, whence in 1635 representatives of the family emigrated to the United States, making settlement in New England. His father, Elias, was the son of Humphrey Merrill, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, who passed his entire life in Maine, the State of his birth. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Dolly Locke, was also born and reared in Maine.

The years of his boyhood our subject passed in the State of Maine, where he received a good education in the common schools. Later he entered Maine Seminary, where he prosecuted his studies with diligence for a period of two years. In 1837, having resolved to seek his fortune in the West, he came to Michigan, and, locating in Grand Rapids, engaged in the lumber business for two years in partnership with his brother Isaae. Returning later to Maine, he spent two years in

that State, and in 1844 again came to Michigan, this time locating in Muskegon, where he embarked in the lumber business in connection with his brother, continuing thus engaged for a period of eighteen years and meeting with the highest success. In 1859 he turned his attention to the real-estate business, in which for a number of years he was successfully engaged. At the present time he owns several business blocks and a number of residences in the city of Muskegon.

The public issues of State and nation have always commanded the earnest attention of Mr. Merrill, whose peculiar abilities eminently qualify him for official position. In his political affiliations he was formerly a Whig and a pronounced Abolitionist, and is at present a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party. In 1857 he was elected to represent his district in the State Legislature, where he served with fidelity to the interests of his constituents and with credit to himself. Among the most important measures with which he was identified was the bill providing for the division of the large county of Ottawa into the two counties of Muskegon and Ottawa, the former having prior to that time been a part of Ottawa. So satisfactory was the service rendered by Mr. Merrill in the Legislature that he was elected in 1865 to the State Senate, representing Ottawa and Muskegon Counties, in which capacity he served for one term.

The marriage of Mr. Merrill was solemnized on the 24th of November, 1840, at which time he was united with Miss Sarah A., daughter of Moses and Sarah (Batchelor) Titcomb, natives of Maine. Mrs. Merrill was a native of Maine and received her education in the schools of North Yarmouth, where she grew to womanhood. She was the mother of one son and four daughters. Three daughters yet survive: Ellen, Mrs. H. N. Hovey, of Muskegon; Annie J., Mrs. James H. Smith; and Eliza M., wife of Ernest A. Worden, also of Muskegon. The deceased were Sarah A. and George W. The mother departed this life at her home on the 13th of May, 1893. The family residence is a commodious structure, pleasantly located at No. 84 Muskegon Avenue, and is furnished in a manner indicating the refined tastes of the inmates.

Mr. Merrill is a man of strong personality, unflinching honesty and integrity, and for many years has been numbered among Muskegon's most able and enterprising citizens. In judgment he is wise and accurate, and his opinion upon matters of importance has the weight of authority among his fellow-citizens. He is ever ready to take an active part in any business undertaking or enterprise that will result profitably to the development of Muskegon, and has been a prominent factor in the progress of this city.



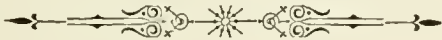
**E**PHRAIM PELTON. The observant traveler as he wends his way along the pleasant roads of Ottawa County finds plenty to occupy his attention and awaken his admiration. On every hand appear evidences of prosperity. Here are fields of waving grain; there nestle busy, bustling cities. Probably in his travels he observes no finer farm than that which is owned and occupied by the subject of this brief biographical review, who is recognized as one of the most capable and prosperous farmers of Tallmadge Township.

Born in Canada in 1832, our subject is the eldest child of Rollin H. and Abigail (Pelton) Pelton, natives of Vermont and Canada respectively, of whom further mention is made in the sketch of Rollin Pelton, presented on another page. He was a pupil in the common schools of Canada, where he acquired a fair education, being an apt and diligent scholar. He remained in the land of his birth until he was a youth of nineteen, when he came to Michigan, and for a time resided near the city of Grand Rapids. For six months he engaged in lumbering about the river, after which he accompanied his parents to Ottawa County and settled with them on a farm in Tallmadge Township.

After working on the farm for a period of twelve years, our subject began lumbering for the firm of Hopkins & Monroe, of Grand Haven, this State, and continued thus engaged for five years. He

then purchased the beautiful farm upon which he has since made his home. At the time of buying the property, it was a wilderness, upon which scarcely a furrow had been turned and no attempt whatever made at improvement; but through the diligent exertions of the owner it is to-day one of the best-improved farms in Ottawa County. Mr. Pelton uses good judgment in the cultivation of the soil, and makes a specialty of the cereals for which the land is best adapted. He makes of farming not only an occupation, but also a science.

In Grand Rapids, on the 1st of January, 1861, Mr. Pelton was united in marriage with Miss Etta Qungley, who was born in New York, being the daughter of William G. and Mary (Franklin) Qungley. To this marriage there have been born four children: R. H., who married Miss Helen Willet and resides in Lowell, this State; Abbie, who is the wife of W. J. Craik, of Sparta; and Joseph and Etta, who live with their parents. While the life of Mr. Pelton has not been characterized by any stirring events or thrilling episodes, his labors, while quietly done, have been no less effective toward securing the advancement of the social and business interests of his community, and while gaining personal success he has also promoted the welfare of the township and county. The Democratic party finds in him a firm adherent and ardent champion, and he casts his ballot and gives his influence toward promoting the success of this political organization.



**J**OHN ALBERS, the well-known and enterprising wholesale dealer in meats of all kinds, and a commission man, the Muskegon representative of Swift & Co., Chicago packers and dealers in provisions, has been a leading citizen of his present locality for thirty-six years, and has spent almost his entire life in the State of Michigan. Born in Germany in 1842, our subject was the son of Henry J. Albers, a man of more than ordinary business ability, who with his fam-

ily early crossed the ocean, and located in Allegan County, Mich., where he resided until his death. He was an extensive shipper of stock and, widely known in the Wolverine State, commanded universal esteem. The mother, Fannie (Larman) Albers, also a native of Germany and yet surviving her husband, continues to make her home in Allegan County. Our subject was eight years of age when with his parents he landed in the city of New York and journeyed immediately after to the West. He enjoyed the benefit of a good common-school education in the district of his home in Allegan County, and at fifteen years of age came to Muskegon, and here received a higher grade of instruction in the excellent public schools of the city.

In 1870 Mr. Albers engaged in the grocery business upon his own account, and a twelvemonth later began the handling of meats, and later sold his grocery store, continuing profitably in the meat business. In 1881 he opened a wholesale meat establishment, second to none in the vicinity, and still continuing successfully in this line of trade, in 1887 became likewise a commission merchant, working in the interest of Swift & Co., of Chicago, and handling their meats upon commission. At the beginning of his business career our subject served a profitable apprenticeship as a clerk in the store of Ryerson & Morris and Ryerson, Hills & Co., well-known and prosperous general merchants. The four years which Mr. Albers spent with this firm gave him a clear insight into business methods and insured him a wide acquaintance throughout the county. He also clerked for a time in the boot and shoe store of W. M. Sawyer, of Muskegon, and when, in 1870, he went into business for himself, he possessed a fund of practical experience, which was a most valuable reserve capital. In his present business, acquiring an extensive trade, our subject has taken his place with the substantial business men of the city and county, and in all matters of public welfare and enterprise is ever ready to lend a helping hand.

In 1869 John Albers and Miss Emma Lake, of Muskegon, were united in marriage. In 1883 Mr. Albers was married to his present wife, Tryntje Ozinga, also of Muskegon. Four sons and one

daughter have blessed the home: Flora, Frank, Henry, George and James. Mrs. Albers is a valued member of the German Reformed Church, and is active in religious and benevolent work. The family residence is desirably located at No. 18 Sanford Street. Fraternally associated with the Maccabees and a member of Union Tent No. 379, Mr. Albers is, politically, a Democrat, and a strong advocate of the "Party of the People." Untroubled by aspirations for office, our subject is yet intelligently posted in local and national issues and is regarded by the general public as a man of liberal spirit and a true American citizen.



**D**ARWIN G. BELL, an extensive landowner of Muskegon County, and a resident of Casenovia, was born in Rossie, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., February 20, 1815, being a son of David and Lucy A. (Blodgett) Bell. His grandfather, David Bell, was born and reared in Vermont, and in early manhood was united in marriage with Miss Chloe, daughter of Asa Carpenter, and niece of Gov. Benjamin Carpenter. They became the parents of ten children, of whom two sons, David and Emer, and seven daughters attained to maturity. In politics, Grandfather Bell adhered to the principles advocated by the Whig party. He followed farming pursuits until his death, which occurred in Jefferson County, N. Y.

David Bell, the father of our subject, was born in Vermont July 28, 1806, and was but one year old when his parents located in Rutland, N. Y. In his youth he gained a thorough knowledge of agricultural pursuits, which he followed in his native State. In 1851 he came to Michigan and settled in Hillsdale County, whence, three years later, he removed to Casenovia Township, Muskegon County. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of heavily timbered land on sections 20 and 29, but was not permitted to enjoy the

rich fruition of his labors in witnessing its development into one of the finest farms in the county, for he was removed by death February 25, 1855. As did his father, he identified himself with the Whig party.

The mother of our subject was born in Franklin County, Mass., in the village of Heath, April 17, 1812. She still survives, being the wife of John Brown. Her parents, Samuel and Susanna C. (Whipple) Blodgett, were natives of Massachusetts, the father having been born near Lexington. In 1828 he removed to New York, and followed farming operations in Jefferson County until his death, at the age of seventy-four years. In religious matters, he was a Free-Will Baptist. He was twice married, and by his first union had twelve children, five sons and seven daughters. His second marriage was childless. He was a son of Timothy Blodgett, a resident of Massachusetts and of English descent, who served in the Revolutionary War.

In the parental family there were nine children who attained to mature years, three having died in childhood. Those who reached manhood and womanhood were: Goodloe H., a resident of Battle Creek; Helen M., who married and is now deceased; Ambrose D., of Mississippi, who enlisted in the Third Michigan Infantry, and served for four years and four months; Emer A., who served in the Third Michigan Infantry, and was killed in the second battle of Bull Run; Chauncey, who served in the Third Michigan Infantry in the Commissary Department, and now lives in Mississippi; Darwin G., of this sketch; Annette, who is married and lives in Missaukee County; Mrs. Emma J. Jackson; and Inez, Mrs. Seaman, who is deceased.

Our subject acquired his education in the High School at Battle Creek and at Battle Creek College. He taught four terms of school in Fremont and Chester Townships, and at the age of twenty-four years he went to Big Rapids, where he received the appointment of Surveyor of Mecosta County. He also engaged in the real-estate and insurance business there, and for two years served as City Engineer. For eighteen years he has made his home in Casenovia, with the progress of which his

name is inseparably associated. He served as County Surveyor for one term, and for fourteen years has been surveyor for the Western Michigan Lumber Company.

The real-estate interests of Mr. Bell are extensive and remunerative. He is the owner of twenty acres on section 29, forty acres on section 20, and forty acres on section 21, Casenovia Township; he owns an interest in four hundred and eighty acres in Moorland Township, being the sole owner of one hundred and forty acres; he is also the owner of a one-half interest in five hundred and forty acres. In addition, he has valuable property in the village of Casenovia. Politically, he is a Republican, and socially is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In May, 1875, Mr. Bell was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Northrup, who was born in Seneca County, Ohio, and is a daughter of William H. and Sarah (Tompkins) Northrup, natives respectively of Steuben County, N. Y., and Seneca County, Ohio. Mr. Northrup is a farmer by occupation, and during the late war enlisted in the Third Ohio Infantry. In 1869 he came to Muskegon County, Mich., where he still resides. His wife died in May, 1890, at the age of sixty-one. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter. The grandfather of Mrs. Bell was Eben Northrup, who lived and died in Steuben County. Our subject and his wife are the parents of four children: Claude V., Clyde C., Fay and Cora M.

state of cultivation. As a farmer and business man, he stands high in the confidence of the people, whose regard he has won by honorable dealings and genial courtesy.

Born in Haldimand County, Canada, our subject is the son of James and Mary Ann (Yocum) Johnston. He is of Irish descent, his paternal grandfather, John Johnston, having been born in the Emerald Isle, whence he emigrated to Canada at an early age, and engaged in farming there until his death, in 1862, at the age of eighty-one. His wife, whose maiden name was Susan Stewart, was a native of Canada, and died about 1865, at the age of seventy-three. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Henry Yocum, was a native of Pennsylvania, but passed the most of his life in Canada, near Niagara Falls. He died in 1869, at the age of nearly eighty. He was a wealthy and successful farmer, a prominent citizen, and one of the first settlers along Lake Erie. The maternal grandmother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Gould, was born in Canada, of German parentage, and died in 1855, at the age of fifty years. Longevity has been a prominent characteristic of this family through several generations. The great-grandmother of our subject on the maternal side was Mary Stewart, who attained the ripe old age of one hundred and six, and a perfect image of her, as she appeared at that age, has been preserved in wax.

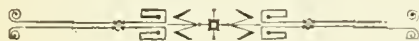
The father of our subject, James Johnston, was born in the State of New Jersey in 1801. When a mere boy he acted in the capacity of teamster in the Government service during the War of 1812. At the age of thirty-two he moved to Canada, and after a residence there of nearly twenty-four years he removed to Berrien County, Mich., whence, in 1865, he came to Muskegon County and settled in Eggleston Township, making his permanent home there. His death occurred October 28, 1871, when he was in his seventieth year, and after he had suffered severely for a number of years. He was a member in good standing of the Old-School Baptist Church of Ashland, and was a man of good habits and lofty principles, whose entire life was devoted to the faith of which he was a follower.

The lady who in 1836 became the wife of James

**G**EORGE NELSON JOHNSTON. Through the good management of his farming affairs in general, the subject of this sketch has demonstrated the fact that skill and labor combined produce the best results. He and his brother are the most extensive and successful mint-growers in Muskegon County, and he has for ten years or more occupied a farm in Moorland Township, consisting of two hundred and forty acres, of which one hundred and forty are in a high

Johnston was Miss Mary Ann Yocum, a native of Rainham, Haldimand County, Canada, born on the 2d of August, 1816. She was a noble Christian wife and mother, beloved by all who knew her, and her life was a blessing to many. She passed from earth December 8, 1891, at the age of seventy-five.

Our subject commenced in business for himself at the age of about twenty-two years, and for some time thereafter he engaged in lumbering, buying and selling lumber and shingles. In 1882 he settled upon the farm he now occupies in Moorland Township, Muskegon County. November 8, 1887, he and Miss Mary McVaugh were married. The bride was the daughter of Patrick and Katharine (Cull) McVaugh, natives of the Emerald Isle who emigrated to America and settled in Chicago. In politics, Mr. Johnston is identified with the Prohibition party, and takes a prominent part in municipal affairs, giving his influence and support to all enterprises calculated to promote the material welfare of the community. In his religious connections, he is a member of the Free Methodist Church, to the support of which he contributes with liberality.



**F**RANK W. SQUIER, a progressive citizen of Muskegon County, residing on section 1, Moorland Township, was born near Rochester, N. Y., October 17, 1853, and is a son of David W. and Sarah (Dayton) Squier, natives of the same State. His paternal grandparents, John and Mary (Lampman) Squier, of English and Dutch descent respectively, were also natives of New York. The ancestors of this family were a long-lived and sturdy race, possessing strong physical and mental qualities. The father of our subject, David W. Squier, a farmer and lumberman, was one of the most prominent citizens, first of Muskegon, and later of Newaygo County, being largely interested in and identified with the lumber business of northern Michigan.

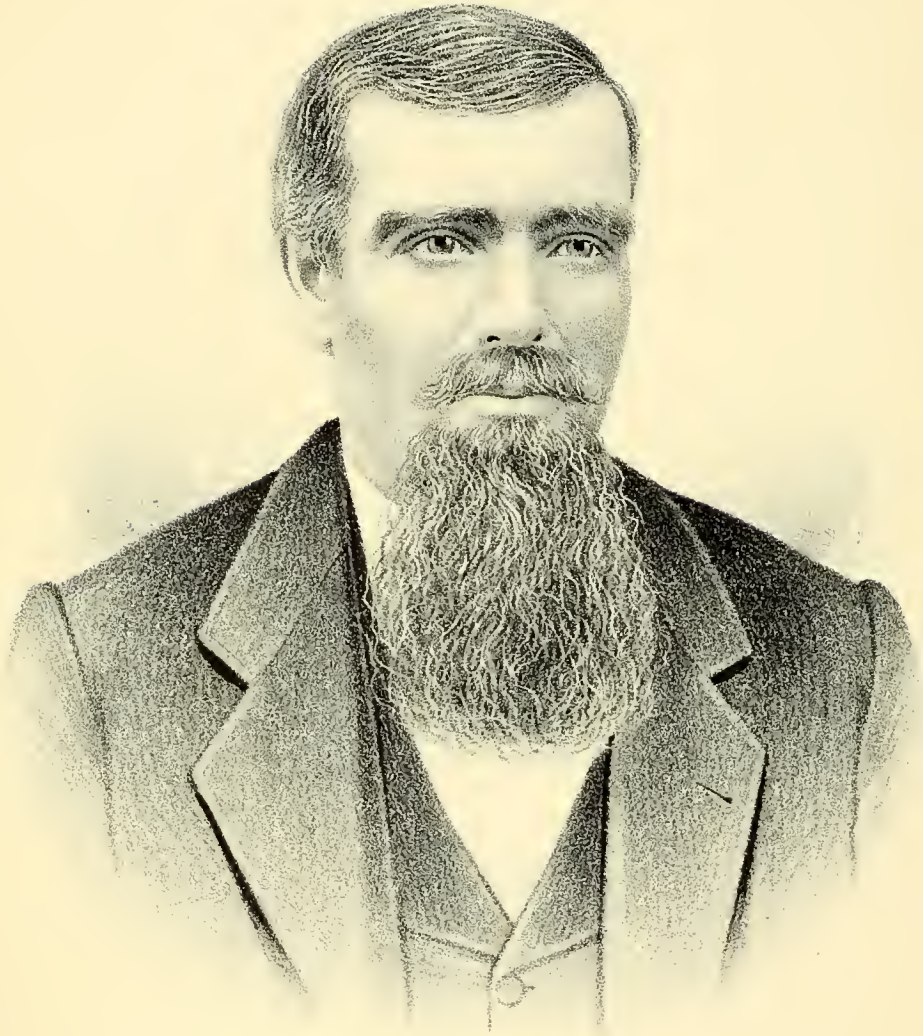
Born at Ft. Edward, Washington County, N. Y., March 10, 1822, David W. Squier grew to manhood on the homestead of his father, and at the age of eighteen embraced the opportunity of devoting his time and energy to lumbering, a desire which he had long cherished. The fulfillment of this ambition decided his life pursuit, and made possible the success he afterward achieved. One of his favorite recreations during his boyhood days was to help in rafting logs down the Hudson and Susquehanna Rivers. In 1844 and 1845 he engaged as a contractor in Monroe County, N. Y., in getting out timber to construct the schooner "Genesee Chief" and the brig "Venice," for the Lake Erie service, working in the heavily timbered region of the Genesee River.

December 18, 1846, Mr. Squier married Miss Sarah, daughter of Idas and Paulina (French) Dayton. Mrs. Squier was born in Monroe County, N. Y., January 23, 1829, and was reared and educated in the place of her birth. After his marriage Mr. Squier changed his plans to some extent for the time being, and engaged in agricultural pursuits in New York. In the fall of 1848 he located in the vicinity of Coldwater, Mich., and again pursued farming operations, interesting himself also in buying horses for the Eastern markets. In 1856 he settled in Muskegon County, Mich., on the Muskegon River, where he engaged in the hotel and lumber business.

In 1858 Mr. Squier purchased one hundred and forty acres of partly-improved land in Newaygo County, where he located permanently. He became one of the most extensive operators of pine and farming lands in northern Michigan, and the owner of over eight thousand acres, half of which is improved and under cultivation. He was a man of quick decision, and gave his personal supervision to all the details of his business affairs. His management, although skillful, was broad and liberal, and his business dealings were characterized by strict integrity. His private residence, built at a cost of \$16,000, is reputed to be the finest farmhouse in Newaygo County. He was a believer in the good old Democratic principles, but was never an aspirant for political honors. After the death of his wife, October 13, 1889, he never left the



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ADAM PATTERSON

old homestead, and seemed to lose all interest in his business affairs. At the age of sixty-eight, after a long and useful career, a short illness resulted in his demise February 1, 1890.

Frank W. Squier is one of five children, only two of whom are now living. His educational advantages included a thorough course in civil engineering, the knowledge of which is very useful to him in the management of the estate. He was united in marriage February 19, 1891, with Miss Mary Dickinson, daughter of Frank and Maryett (Kimbell) Dickinson, natives of Vermont and New York respectively. Mrs. Squier was born in Michigan March 9, 1865, and received an excellent education in girlhood in Newaygo County, Mich. Our subject possesses many of the sterling qualities of his father, and is highly regarded by the people of his community. He devotes the most of his time and attention to the management of his extensive interests in lumber and agriculture.



**A**DAM PATTERSON was born in Brock, Canada, March 13, 1810, and died in Muskegon County, Mich., June 17, 1891.

The half-century that spanned these dates was filled with deeds of kindness and generosity, and when the end came it was felt by all with whom he had business or social relations that the community had suffered an irreparable loss. This brief record of his life will be perused with interest by those with whom he was associated in days gone by, and will also furnish an example for the emulation of the rising generation.

The parents of our subject, Alexander and Mary Patterson, were natives of Scotland, and in 1837 emigrated to America, settling in Canada, where they resided about twenty years. They then removed to Michigan and located in Berlin, Ottawa County. After a residence there of another twenty years, they sold out their farming interests and removed to Grand Rapids, where Mr. Patterson resided, practically retired from active business, until

his death. Of ten children, our subject is the fourth in respect to age. He remained at home until about twenty-two years old, assisting his father on the farm and at the same time acquiring a common-school education. He then engaged in farming in Polkton Township, Ottawa County, and followed this occupation about two years.

Removing from Polkton Township to Ravenna, Mr. Patterson embarked in the milling and lumbering business, and for about two years had an extensive trade in that line. Then selling out his interests at that place, he located at Tititute and erected a large mill for the manufacture of lumber and shingles. He did a thriving business here for about one year, then sold out and removed to Ravenna, where he remained for one summer. Thence he went to Casenovia and purchased the Edward Hayward mill, where his usual success attended him during his two years' stay. His restless ambition, however, induced him to again dispose of his property, after which he located on Half Moon Lake. After one year spent at that place, he went to Bailey and built one of the largest mills in northern Michigan, which he conducted for two years. Later he resided at Nunica, Ottawa County, and subsequently engaged in the manufacture of shingles on Rogue River.

After having spent twelve months in the last-named place, Mr. Patterson disposed of his interests there and removed to Girard, Kan., where he engaged in farming. Like many others who settled in the Sunflower State at that time, he soon discovered that farming operations there proved very unsuccessful, owing to the hot winds and the destructiveness of grasshoppers. As a result of these causes, he met with the entire loss of all his property, and after a two-years sojourn in Kansas returned to Michigan. In this State he located on a farm ten miles east of Grand Rapids, where he remained about one year, going from there to a farm in Moorland Township. Upon property purchased in this township he conducted agricultural operations on an extensive scale, and in connection with his farming interests he built and conducted a large lumber and shingle mill.

Mr. Patterson possessed indomitable pluck and energy, and we find him in 1877, less than two

years after his return from Kansas, with his fortune so far retrieved that he was the owner of a fine farm and a large milling interest. His business here proved very successful and he made this his permanent home. He was married July 19, 1865, to Lovisa, daughter of John W. and Elizabeth Tibbitts, natives of New York. The marriage resulted in the birth of three children, one of whom, Ethel May, is deceased. Ella Frances and Elmer Franklin are twins, the former being the wife of Thomas Workman, of Moorland Township; the son married Mary McMillan and makes his home in Moorland Township. In the summer of 1891, Mr. Patterson returned from an extended tour through the South, where he had looked up a new location for milling operations. He was making arrangements to return to the South, when a brief and unexpected illness resulted in his death. He possessed many sterling and generous qualities, and his friendly and social disposition made him quite popular among his acquaintances.



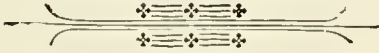
**J**UDGE EDWARD HUNTINGTON WYLIE, deceased, a citizen of superior judicial ability, a jurist of culture and fine attainments who, with honor and distinction, for twenty years presided in the Probate Court of Muskegon County, Mich., and, a long-time resident of the city of Muskegon, held with able fidelity various official positions of trust and, a liberal-spirited citizen, was mourned as a public loss when, upon April 27, 1882, he was suddenly taken ill while at work in his office. He was removed to his home and died the same evening. Our subject, born in Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., December 8, 1819, was the son of Capt. Moses and Mary (Clark) Wylie. The mother was the daughter of Dr. John Clark, a physician of eminence, and the granddaughter of Dr. John Clark, Sr., whose mother was the sister of the celebrated divine, Jonathan Edwards. The remote Wylie ancestors were natives of Scotland, sturdy, self-re-

specting men and women of rectitude and thrifty industry. Judge Wylie belonged to the Huntington family, which contained many distinguished names. Theodore D. Weld, the famous Abolitionist, was a cousin, also Grace Greenwood, the well-known authoress. The Clarks were originally from England, but, emigrating in a very early day to America, founded in this country a branch of a family noted for its culture and piety.

Our subject, throughout his life a great reader, was educated in the schools of Lebanon and Utica, the days of his boyhood being spent in the two places. Arriving at manhood, he engaged in mercantile business in his native State and had attained to twenty-six years when, in 1843, he followed the tide of emigration to the farther West and settled in Kent County, Mich., where he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. In 1849 Judge Wylie removed to Muskegon and here became interested in lumbering, but later again embarked in mercantile business, in which he continued for a few years. Politically a stalwart Republican, our subject soon became a leader in the local councils of the party and received at their hands the offices with which he was honored, and which he by his efficient discharge of duty honored. Judge Wylie first received an important political promotion as County Treasurer, and for several years was in charge of the moneys of Muskegon County, which he handled with a clear judgment, financial ability and sterling integrity which gained him the good-will and respect of his fellow-citizens. He was also County Clerk and in this capacity became widely known. Elected Judge of Probate, our subject for nearly a score of years aided in the administering of estates and ever sought conscientiously to award all property so that it should subserve the ends of right and justice.

On November 22, 1859, Edward Huntington Wylie and Miss Eliza Mounteney, a native of England, were united in marriage. The union was blessed by the birth of four children, three of whom are living, one daughter and two sons: Mary A., at home; Alfred Weld and Vernon Huntington. The Judge was a faithful attendant at the Congregational Church. Mrs. Wylie resides

in a pleasant home at No. 102 West Clay Avenue, Muskegon, and in the hour of her bereavement received from her many friends, tried and true, the sincerest sympathy. Eleven years have passed since our honored subject was suddenly called from his life work, but his memory is green in the hearts of all who knew him and bore him respect for his many virtues and genuine worth.



**S**ETH D. ESTES, who is now living a retired life in Muskegon, Mich., claims Maine as the State of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Pownal, Cumberland County, on April 5, 1828. His father, Seth D. Estes, was also born in the Pine Tree State, and there spent his entire life. His wife, Mrs. Sarah Estes, was also a native of Maine. The ancestors of the family came from England, and located in this country prior to the Revolution.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the county of his nativity and the common schools afforded him his educational privileges. In March of 1868 he followed Horace Greeley's advice to young men and came to the West, locating in Muskegon, Mich., where he has since made his home on his present homestead. For a number of years he was employed as an engineer and then embarked in the manufacture of boilers, which he continued for some time. Later he laid out and platted the Estes Addition to the city and now owns several good lots and residences in Muskegon. His property yields to him a good income.

Ere leaving his native State, Mr. Estes was married. In 1848 he was joined in wedlock with Miss Artemesia Libby, a native of Maine, and a daughter of Abraham Libby. The union of this worthy couple has been blessed with a family of twelve children, nine boys and three girls, of whom six sons are now living, as follows: Alfred L., A. True, Simeon, Abram L., Charles F. and Seth

Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Estes have also an adopted daughter, Cora J., whom they took when she was about two years old. She is now the wife of O. B. Taylor, of Muskegon. Our subject and his wife reside at their pleasant home at No. 10 Estes Street. The hospitable dwelling is ever open for the reception of their friends, who are many.

Mr. Estes was one of the boys in blue during the late war. He had watched with interest the progress of events prior to the struggle and resolved if secession was carried into effect he would strike a blow in defense of the Union. So in 1861, prompted by patriotic impulses, he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-fifth Maine Infantry. The regiment was assigned to the army of the Potomac and was engaged in guarding railroads and in doing picket duty. In July, 1863, Mr. Estes was mustered out in Portland, Me. In politics he is a supporter of Republican principles, but has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with success. His prosperity is all due to his enterprise and good business ability and is therefore well deserved. He is now in comfortable circumstances and has enough to keep him through his remaining years without further labor.



**J**AMES H. WILLIAMS, resident manager and member of the firm of C. G. Alley & Co., large lumber dealers of White Lake, and also interested in various other financial enterprises, has for the past two years been President of the Village Council of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich. Mr. Williams was born in Utica, N. Y., February 19, 1848. His father, Orsamus Williams, was born in the same house in Utica in 1809, and was the son of Sebra Williams, a native of Vermont. The great-grandfather was a Welshman by birth, but, emigrating to the United States in a very early day, settled in New England. Grandfather Sebra Williams, a shoemaker by trade,

removed when quite young to Utica, and carried on shoemaking, but, owning a farm of eighty acres near the city, finally retired to his homestead, where he died at the age of eighty years. The old farm then came into the possession of Orsamus, who lived on it until 1865, when he removed to Michigan, and located on a farm near Lawton, in Van Buren County. For fifteen or twenty years prior to this time, the father was a large and prosperous stock-drover, buying in the West and driving the cattle through to the Eastern markets. He was said to be one of the best judges of stock in the country, and made a fortune in the business, but afterwards lost heavily by a dishonest partner. While in New York State Orsamus Williams served faithfully as Assessor, and was for many years Supervisor in Lawton, where he died in 1874.

The mother of our subject, Abigail (Howlet) Williams, was born in Oswego, N. Y., in 1808. She was a most estimable woman, beloved by all who knew her, and passed away mourned by many friends in 1891, at the home of a daughter in Lawton. The parents were blessed with a family of four sons and four daughters, our subject being next to the youngest in order of birth. Adelia married James Nash, and lives on the Lawton homestead. Nelson II., enlisting in the late Civil War, in the One Hundred and Forty-seventh New York Infantry, was wounded at Gettysburg, taken prisoner and thrown into Libby, where he spent three months. At the expiration of this time transferred to Andersonville, he remained eight months in that prison, and, denied medical attendance, suffered constantly from his wounds. Weighing one hundred and sixty pounds when captured, he was reduced to seventy-five pounds after his eleven months in the rebel prisons, and three years later died from the exposure and privations then endured. Sarah Williams, the second sister, died when twenty years of age. Elon II. also passed away at twenty. Henry S. graduated from Hillsdale College and went to South Dakota, where he is now a leading politician, and editor of the *Aberdeen Daily News*. He was for some years in the Government Land Office in Aberdeen, and served ably as Treasurer of Brown County. Laura

Williams married Seymour Winters, a farmer of Lawton, Mich. Edna A. became the wife of Scott Catsner, a successful agriculturist residing near Lawton.

Our subject was about sixteen years old when with his parents he emigrated to Michigan. Until nineteen he remained upon the home farm, assisting in the daily round of cares. He received his education mainly in Hillsdale College, and when twenty-one years of age came to Whitehall without capital save youth, energy, and determination to make his upward way in life. Having worked his passage as far as Grand Haven, and arriving in the latter city without a cent in his pocket, Mr. Williams walked the twenty-eight miles to Whitehall, his lunch upon the way consisting of a few dry crackers. Receiving immediate employment with Charles H. Cook, the lumberman, our subject began piling lumber on the docks, which he continued throughout the summer, in the winter cooking in one of the lumber camps. For three years he did anything his hands could find to do, and worked both about the sawmills and in the camps. In 1875 Mr. Williams again entered the employ of Charles H. Cook as foreman of his mill, and remained in that capacity the succeeding nine years. In 1884, our subject, taking a new departure, engaged in the general insurance business, under the firm name of Johnston & Williams, and in 1892 succeeded to the business which he yet conducts, as well as engaging in his lumber business with C. G. Alley & Co., in which firm he has had an interest for some three years. In addition to his other enterprises Mr. Williams was for some time interested in a furniture and crockery store in Montague.

In the fall of 1872, James H. Williams and Miss Minnie Moshier, of Lawton, were united in marriage. This estimable lady died in February, 1874, without issue. In 1878, our subject a second time married, entering the bonds of matrimony with Miss Estella Reynolds, a teacher of Montague. She died in December, 1880, while on a visit to a brother in Paw Paw, and passing away after an illness of three days left no children. December 1, 1888, Mr. Williams married his present wife, Miss Belle McHattie, daughter of John McHattie,

a Scotchman by birth, and the proprietor of a flourmill at Cedar Springs. This union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a son, Russell H., now about nine months old, and the pride of the household. Financially prospered, our subject in addition to his other extensive business interests operates a large farm, and is likewise interested in the summer resort, Nahant Beach. Politically, our subject has been a life-long Republican. Fraternally, he is a member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, a Knight Templar and a Shriner. He is also a Knight of Pythias, and, widely known as a business man of ability and sterling integrity, commands the esteem of his fellow-citizens, with whom he is identified in every public enterprise of importance.



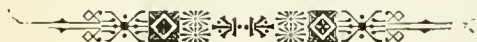
**G**EERHARD BENNINK, the energetic and successful dealer in choice family groceries and fruits, has been a highly respected citizen of his present locality, Muskegon, Mich., since 1866, and since 1885 has prosperously conducted his present business, enjoying a trade second to none in the city. Aside from a complete assortment of fine groceries, Mr. Bennink profitably handles feed, and controls a large custom in this department of his business. From his earliest residence in the Wolverine State our subject has been intimately associated with the progressive interests of Muskegon, and in 1889, elected Alderman from the Sixth Ward, discharged the duties of his office with fidelity to his constituents and to the general satisfaction of the public. Born in Prussia, Germany, February 9, 1839, Geerhard Bennink was the son of John H. and Trude A. (Crabben) Bennink, both natives of Germany, upright and industrious people, who, reared and educated in their native land, there made their home after marriage and trained to habits of thrift and industry the sons and daughters who blessed their union. The father, by occupation a

farmer, year after year tilled the soil, and finally at an advanced age passed away among the familiar scenes of his youth.

Our subject received a good common-school education in the excellent schools of his native land, and during his boyhood assisted his father in the work of the farm. At the age of eighteen years he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a carpenter. Five years later, in 1863, bidding adieu to the familiar scenes of youth, Mr. Bennink embarked for America, and after a safe voyage landed in New York and journeyed at once to the father West, locating in Indianapolis, Ind., where he found ready occupation as a carpenter and builder. In 1866 our subject removed to Michigan and, settling in Muskegon, here learned the business of a millwright and worked for several years in the large lumber-mills, continuing in the duties of a millwright until the spring of 1885. Mr. Bennink then opened a grocery and feed store, and by unremitting attention to the demands of a large and rapidly increasing trade has won his upward way to a comfortable competence, and, financially prospered, is numbered among the leading business men of the city. Politically a Republican and an ardent advocate of the party, our subject was elected as a candidate on that ticket as Alderman of his ward, and has long taken a high place in the local councils of his party.

August 20, 1867, were united in marriage Geerhard Bennink and Miss Catherine Berghuis, a daughter of Simeon Berghuis, a courageous soldier serving with fidelity under Napoleon. Mrs. Bennink was born in Holland, but her mother, Margaret (Pieret) Berghuis, was the daughter of Peter Pieret, a Frenchman. The estimable wife of our subject passed the days of girlhood in Holland and received her education in the schools of her native land. Emigrating to America in 1867, she landed in New York, and then journeyed directly to Muskegon, where she was at once married to Mr. Bennink by the Rev. Mr. Hubolt. Six children, of whom but two survive, have brightened the home. John H. runs a feed store in Muskegon, and Margaret clerks in her father's grocery. Mr. and Mrs. Bennink are devout members of the Fourth Street Holland Church, and live at

No. 42 Mason Avenue, a desirable residence locality. They are active in the religious work and benevolent enterprises of their denomination, and are highly esteemed by a large acquaintance.



**A**SAHEL G. HOPKINS, M. D., a prominent physician and surgeon, residing at No. 171 Pine Street, Muskegon, Mich., has been intimately associated with the growth and history of the State for more than a half-century, and is in fact one of the medical pioneers, well known and highly regarded. Our subject is a native of the Empire State and was born in Washington County September 3, 1819. His father, Martin Hopkins, a native of Rhode Island, passed away in New York, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was a brave soldier of the War of 1812, and by occupation was a farmer, prosperously tilling his fertile fields. The Hopkinses came of a long line of distinguished English ancestry, whose descendants, locating in the United States, have with ability filled many important positions of trust. The mother, Mary (Pettis) Hopkins, died when Asahel G. was but six years of age. She was the daughter of Matthew Pettis, and a woman of efficiency and fine character. Dr. Hopkins was educated in his birthplace and completed his preparatory studies in Shelby Academy, Washington County, N. Y., and later read medicine with Dr. Savage and Dr. Freeman Hopkins. In 1840, emigrating to Michigan, he settled in Otsego, Allegan County. After arriving in the Wolverine State, he read medicine with Dr. Carr, of Whitehall, and took a course of medical lectures in Detroit. In 1846 he moved to Kalamazoo and followed contracting and building.

Some time later, during 1873 and 1874, our subject took a second course of lectures in Detroit, at the Homeopathic College, and from 1876 to 1877 studied in the Cincinnati Eclectic Medical Institute. In 1861 Dr. Hopkins, in connection with C. C. Weeb, enlisted in the service of the Govern-

ment and joined Company E, Thirteenth Michigan Infantry, organized by Col. Charles C. Stewart, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. Our subject was commissioned Lieutenant of a company which he had recruited, and with the command actively participated in the battles of Vicksburg Landing and Shiloh, and was injured July 17, 1862, on the march between Moorville and Decatur. On that account he was assigned by Gen. Buell, in September, to the camp and barracks at Nashville, Tenn., and remained there until honorably discharged, May 16, 1863. At the close of the war returning to Kalamazoo, he then located in Decatur, but in 1866 made his home at Whitehall, Muskegon County, where he engaged in merchandising and was elected Justice of the Peace, at the same time studying medicine under Dr. Carr. After graduating from the college in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Doctor located in Decatur, Mich., where he remained in general practice until 1882, when he removed to Muskegon, conducting a general practice, and making a specialty of chronic diseases. In 1884 our subject erected the Invalids' Home at Muskegon and superintended the institution with great success until 1891, when the building was destroyed by fire, May 16.

Dr. Hopkins immediately rebuilt on the same site and established the well-known and prosperous Hopkins' Sanitarium, conducted on eclectic-electro homeopathic principles. The building has a fine frontage of forty-four feet and is eight rods in depth, well lighted, and conveniently arranged for the care of the sick and suffering. Our subject is a valued member of the State Medical Association and is likewise a member of the American Association of Official Surgeons. Fraternally, he is connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, belonging both to the Sir Knights and the Royal Arch Masons. He also affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a member of the Good Templars, and was associated with the first Grand Lodge of the order. Politically a stalwart Republican, he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. William H. Harrison and also voted for Benjamin Harrison. In February, 1841, were united in marriage Asahel G. Hopkins and Miss Charity S. Brown, of Lyons, Wayne County,



N. Y., and a daughter of Ephraim Brown, a native of Connecticut. August 8, 1890, the estimable wife of our subject passed away, mourned by many friends. She was the mother of five children, three of whom are living, two sons and one daughter. Olin is located in Muskegon; Asahel G., Jr., was the fifth-born; Frankie is the wife of Benjamin Bray, of Idaho. Dr. Hopkins has a store of interesting reminiscences of the early days when he settled in Kalamazoo, before there was a railroad in the county. Known throughout the State, our subject commands the confidence and best wishes of a host of friends, many of whom have recuperated from ill-health under his faithful care. November 5, 1892, our subject was married to Miss Isabella Boughton, a native of New York.



**PATRICK J. CONNELL.** In a city of the rapid growth and development of Muskegon, the importance of the line of industry in which Mr. Connell is engaged cannot be overestimated. To the contractor and builder in effect, conjointly with the architect, belongs the task of imparting to the city that appearance of solidity, wealth, refinement and comfort which at once stamps its citizens as progressive and enterprising. In a work which has for its object a comprehensive review of the leading enterprises of Muskegon, Mich., it is highly important that special attention should be devoted to those great artisans whose skill and labor have been utilized in the construction of her buildings and public institutions; and foremost among the number is our subject, who has been closely identified with the rise and progress of the city. Mr. Connell is senior member of the firm of P. J. Connell & Son, contractors and builders of Muskegon, Mich.

Patrick J. Connell was born in Ireland September 25, 1840, to the union of James and Mary (Malone) Connell, natives also of the Green Isle of Erin. The father followed the trade of builder in his native country, but finally, growing restive,

bade adieu to friends and scenes long loved and in 1842 pitched the household tent in Canada. From there he moved to the city of New York, remaining there for some time, and then moved to Oswego, N. Y., where his death occurred in August, 1847. His wife survived him until March, 1881, her death taking place in Ottawa County, Mich. She was the daughter of Thomas Malone. Thirteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Connell, six of whom are living at the present time, and all honored and esteemed citizens in the communities in which they make their homes.

Patrick J. Connell, the youngest of the above-mentioned children, was left fatherless at a tender age and was soon thrown on his own resources. He came to Ottawa County, Mich., and all the schooling he obtained was before he was nine years old. Later, he spent some time in Grand Haven and went from there to Spring Lake, where he was employed in a sawmill, finally going to Detroit, where he engaged with Manly D. Richardson, learning the mason's trade there. In 1860, he went South to New Orleans, but the Civil War breaking out, he returned North, and in 1861 enlisted in Company G, Fifth Michigan Infantry. After serving three months he was honorably discharged for disability and went to Chicago, where he was married to Miss Maria J. Looney, of that place. There they made their home until 1870, when they went to Grand Haven, Mich. In 1874, Mr. Connell removed to Muskegon, Mich., and is now one of the leading contractors and builders of this city. He is a popular and public-spirited citizen and is worthy the large measure of success achieved in this difficult, yet so vitally essential, branch of skilled industry. He has made a prominent record in contract work, having erected the opera house, Occidental Building, Chase piano works, Alaska refrigerator works, Kelly Brothers' factory, the iron and steel works, city water works, the Sheriff's residence and jail and the new court house.

John J. Connell, son of our subject, was born in Chicago in 1856, and learned the mason's trade in boyhood. In April, 1891, he became a partner, making the above firm P. J. Connell & Son. They employ over fifty men, have \$8,000 invested in

modern building appliances, and annually disburse about \$20,000 in wages alone, which goes towards Muskegon's upbuilding. Our subject, the senior member of the firm, and his son were the contractors and builders of the new court house at Muskegon, the same being erected in 1893. In connection with his building interests, Mr. Connell is engaged quite extensively in handling stone, brick and cement, and has a good office, well fitted for his business. He is one of the most successful and prominent business men of the city.

In politics, Mr. Connell formerly advocated the principles of the Democratic party. He is now a staunch Prohibitionist, and for the past eight years has been Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Good Templars of the State. He was a delegate to the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Good Templars at Des Moines. At present he is Treasurer of the Emens Brick & Tile Company, Director of the Capital and Chattanooga Building and Loan Associations, President of the Curtis Automatic Railroad Gate Company (the capital stock being \$60,000), and a stockholder in the Iron and Steel Company. Mr. Connell holds membership in the St. Mary's Catholic Church and contributes liberally to its support. He has an elegant residence and is the owner of much good property.



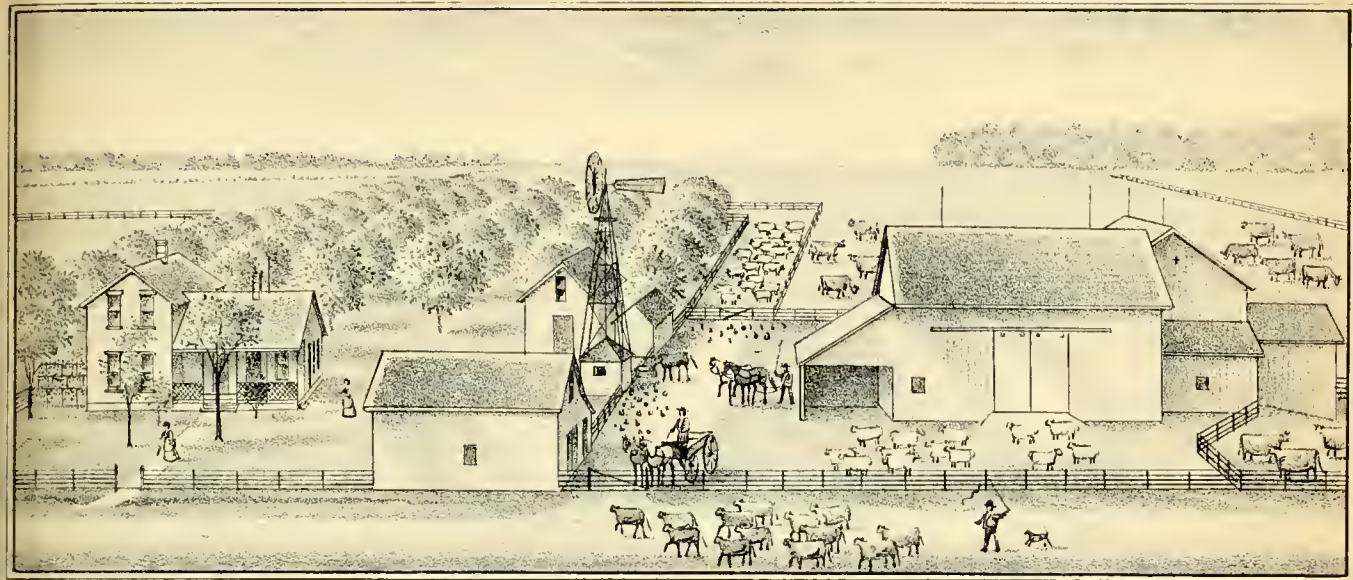
**O**LE E. GORDON. Muskegon County numbers among her honored citizens and industrious agriculturists many sons of Norway and Sweden, and to them is due in no small degree the development of this region. For many years Mr. Gordon was identified with the history of Fruitland Township and was one of the oldest settlers of the county. He was born in the western part of Norway in 1829, and was one of sixteen children, whose parents were Andrew and Mary Oleson. He was reared to manhood on a farm and from early youth earned his own living by work-

ing for neighboring farmers. Though his father's family was large, the children were given good educations.

Mr. Gordon was an ambitious young man and determined to try his fortunes on the Western Continent. Accordingly in 1849 he bade adieu to the friends of his youth and after his arrival in the United States at once proceeded to Michigan. He located in Fruitland Township before its organization, and entered a portion of Government land, which, with characteristic energy, he proceeded to clear. The following ten years of his life were years of hard labor and unremitting toil, as much of that time he was employed in logging camps.

It was in 1859 that the first marriage of Mr. Gordon was celebrated. Miss Hanna Brady, of Oceana County, becoming his wife. After her death he wedded Miss Emily Halvorson, who was born in Norway. Her parents, Halvor and Emily Halvorson, likewise of Norway, emigrated to the United States at an early day, settling in Wisconsin. The father died soon after his arrival of that dread epidemic, cholera, after a sickness of only twenty-four hours. Some years later the mother came to live at the home of our subject, where she died after attaining the age of sixty-eight years. Mrs. Gordon, who was one of nine children, became the mother of two sons and two daughters. One died in infancy, while those living are Harrison E., Ida G. C. and Emalinda O.

For a number of years Mr. Gordon held the office of Supervisor and filled other local positions. He was the first Treasurer of Fruitland Township and was faithful to that trust for thirteen years. He was a member of the county Grange, and with his wife was one of the workers in the Lutheran Church. His ballot was deposited for the Republican nominees, and he was ever to be counted on to support just and upright measures. His well-improved farm, one hundred and twenty acres of which he entered from the Government, he cleared himself, making many substantial improvements upon it. In addition to this he owned tracts of land in many places, and at the time of his death was possessed of considerable wealth. He was called from this life in 1882, leaving a host of



RESIDENCE OF EMILY E. GORDON, SEC. 13, FRUITLAND TP., MUSKEGON CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF GEO. A. LATHAM, SEC. 23, ALLENDALE TP., OTTAWA CO., MICH.



friends and neighbors who have missed him in the various walks of life. He was one of the earliest settlers of the county, and was well worthy of a representation in the history of its pioneers.



**G**EORGE A. LATHAM. The gentleman whose name introduces this sketch is intelligent and enterprising, and from boyhood has been interested in agricultural pursuits. He has spent many years of his life in tilling and cultivating the soil, and is now in comfortable circumstances. As one of the first settlers of Allendale Township, he has for years been closely associated with the progress of Ottawa County. Born in the State of New York, he is a son of John and Mary (Osborne) Latham, who were also natives of the Empire State. Grandfather Kellogg Latham was a soldier in the War for Independence, and John Latham was an active participant in the War of 1812, being stationed in Connecticut. The maternal grandfather, Israel Osborne, was also a Revolutionary soldier. He reared a large family, as did also Kellogg Latham.

John Latham was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and when the subject of this sketch was about seven years of age he removed to Wellington, Ohio, and there he followed his trade until becoming quite advanced in years, when he abandoned carpentry to take up farming. He continued thus engaged until his death, which occurred about 1851, his wife having died about 1835. They were the parents of three children: Julia, deceased; George A., who was born September 5, 1829; and Clarissa, wife of S. E. Turner, of Grand Rapids, Mich. Mr. Latham had been married previous to his union with Miss Osborne, and by his first wife had become the father of eight children, as follows: Warren; Nancy, wife of George Cone; Almira, who married a Mr. Nelson; Eliza, the wife of G. D. Graves; Mary A., Mrs. J. Batterson; Charles, Kellogg, and one that died young.

George A. Latham was educated in the district schools of Ohio, and in his youth became familiar with farm life. At the age of twenty he left the shelter of the parental roof, and, coming to Michigan, remained here from November, 1849, until June, 1850, when he returned to Ohio. After remaining in the Buckeye State for some time, he returned to Michigan, and for eight years thereafter made his home in Grand Rapids. During that time he was employed in a lumber-mill, and for a number of years afterward he was engaged as foreman for Richard Roberts, who was the first settler of the county. In 1860 he purchased eighty acres of timber land and eighty acres of farming land, selling one-half of the latter tract to his father-in-law, Isaac Tuttle, and disposing of the remaining forty acres to G. P. Reed. The first eighty-acre tract he improved, and the larger part of it he has sold. For seven years he was engaged in handling lumber and timber in his township for Ferry & Son, of Grand Haven.

Upon abandoning that occupation, Mr. Latham came to his farm, but shortly afterward went to Muskegon, and there worked for his former employers from November, 1866, to May, 1869, receiving for his services \$100 per month. In 1869 he returned to his farm, where he remained about one year. He then commenced contracting with Dwight, Cutler & Savage, and for six years was in the employ of this firm. He then again returned to his farm, and for ten years was successfully engaged in tilling the soil. At that time he sold sixty acres of his property and purchased forty acres of the land which he now owns, later increasing it by eighty acres, which he has since sold. He now owns a sixty-acre farm, which is improved with a fine residence, good barns and a magnificent orchard of many of the best varieties of apples, peaches, pears and plums, besides having an excellent vineyard and quantities of small fruit. Mr. Latham has served his township as Supervisor for three terms, Highway Commissioner for twelve years, and is now and for some years past has been Director of his school district.

The first marriage of Mr. Latham united him with Miss Mary A. Tuttle, a native of Michigan, and a daughter of Isaac Tuttle, one of the pioneer

settlers of the county. To them five children were born: Jackson E., of Kendall County, Ill.; Edgar, Kellogg, Benjamin, and Mary E., deceased. Mrs. Mary A. Latham died in the year 1872, and three years later our subject wedded Mrs. Susan M. Pixley, a daughter of Asa Brown. Her parents were natives of Canada and Massachusetts, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Latham lost their only daughter, who died at birth. They now have an adopted daughter, Deme B. Latham. This worthy couple are members of the Congregational Church. Socially, he is a member of Ottawa Lodge No. 122, A. F. & A. M. In his political views he has always supported the men and measures of the Republican party.



**R**OBERT G. WALKER. No industry is of such essential importance to every citizen as that of the plumber and gas-fitter. There is no security for the health and comfort of the population where the best rules that govern sanitary plumbing have been overlooked, for dread and insidious diseases invariably follow any violation of the principles of hygienic plumbing. Happily Muskegon numbers among her enterprising tradesmen and mechanics some of the most reputable and experienced sanitary plumbers in the United States. Among the foremost of these is Robert G. Walker, whose past success and whose present reputation equally attest the superiority of his work.

Mr. Walker opened his eyes to the scenes of this world on the 18th of July, 1850, in Ontario, Canada, and is the son of Robert and Jane (Mooney) Walker. The father followed the occupation of a farmer for many years and met with substantial results. His death occurred in 1868, and his wife followed him to the grave in 1891. They were honest, upright citizens and worthy of the respect and esteem in which they were held. Four children were born to their union, our subject being the youngest in order of birth. The

latter was reared on his father's farm, received a good practical education in the common schools, and later went to London, Canada, where he attended Jones & Bell's Commercial College until 1869, when he graduated.

He remained in his native country until 1872, and then crossed the boundary line to the United States, settling in Monroe County, Mich. There he bought and sold stock and shipped with John Stead, of Detroit, Mich. In 1880 he came to Muskegon and was employed as book-keeper in the plumbing, steam and gas fitting business of John J. Howden. He remained with Mr. Howden for eleven years, and in 1890 embarked in the plumbing and gas-fitting business for himself. His success is an excellent example of the result of energy and perseverance, and should encourage all who are endeavoring to struggle through the difficulties that surround the starting of a new business. He carries a large stock of the finest gas fixtures and sanitary plumbing materials, which include every article in various styles that can be required in the comprehensive business.

In the month of September, 1877, Mr. Walker was married to Miss Etta Trowbridge, a native of the Empire State, which she left to come to this State with her parents when but a girl. They have two children, Robert and Zula. Mr. Walker is a Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity, and a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F. In politics, he is a Republican.



**J**AMES MALCOLM. As a progressive and successful agriculturist of Tallmadge Township, the subject of this sketch is known, either personally or by reputation, to all the citizens of Ottawa County. During the long period of his residence here he has become inseparably connected with the progress of the community, and while advancing his individual interests has also aided in developing the resources of the

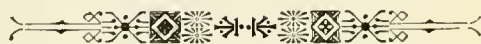
township and county. In connection with agriculture he has also followed the trade of a carpenter, and through the intelligent prosecution of these two vocations he has accumulated a competency.

In Canada, August 23, 1826, our subject was born to the union of Daniel and Margaret (Crossett) Malcolm, the former a native of Scotland, while the latter was born in New York, being the daughter of James and Margaret (Pescod) Crossett. The only child of his parents, our subject was given every advantage within their power to bestow upon him, and for some time he was a student in the common schools of Canada. He was employed on the home farm until he was twenty, when he commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter, and at the expiration of his apprenticeship followed that occupation in Canada for ten years.

On coming to the States Mr. Malcolm sojourned for a time in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he worked at his trade for one year. Feeling dissatisfied, however, with the location and prospects offered by that city, he came to Ottawa County, where the indications were so favorable that he decided to purchase property here. The land that he purchased in Tallmadge Township in 1861 was wholly unimproved, and it was only after the most arduous efforts on his part that the "wilderness was made to bloom and blossom as the rose." Finally the land was cleared, the soil placed under cultivation, suitable buildings erected, and ornamental and fruit trees planted, and the farm now ranks among the best in the vicinity.

At the age of twenty-three years Mr. Malcolm was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Parmelia, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah (Vincent) Stephens, and to this marriage ten children were born, as follows: Sarah Ann; Aethlea, who became the wife of John Yonker and resides in Grand Rapids; Rhoda; Minerva, the wife of William Schroder and a resident of Grand Rapids; George, who died August 24, 1893; James, Ebon, Thomas J., Rachel and John. The wife and mother died in 1888, mourned by all who knew her, but especially by the members of her family, to whom she had always been tenderly attached. In his political belief Mr. Malcolm always casts his

ballot in support of Democratic principles and candidates. He has been the incumbent of numerous official positions, including the office of Township Commissioner, which he has held for four terms. Mr. Malcolm's father was twice married; by his first marriage he had three sons and four daughters, all deceased except one son, Jeremiah, who resides in Kansas.



**R**EV. ALBERTUS C. VAN RAALTE, D. D. No name is more widely known and respected in Ottawa County than that of the father of the Dutch settlements. He has imprinted himself on its history, and a hundred years hence his name will stand out in still bolder relief than it does to-day; for as the fruition of his life becomes more apparent his fame will increase. Dr. Van Raalte was a man of commanding appearance, short of stature, with a wide and thoughtful brow; a man of deep convictions and fully possessed of the courage of these convictions; a man of magnificent education and tireless industry, with a will of iron, and a singular magnetism; a man born and bred for the leadership of his fellows. He was born at Wanneperveen, in the Netherlands, October 17, 1811. His parents were Rev. Albertus Van Raalte and Christina Catherina Harking. Seventeen children were born of this union, of whom only four or five survive.

After the completion of his classical studies, Dr. Van Raalte went to the University of Leyden, where he became an associate of a few congenial students, who had come under the influence of the men of the "Reveil," especially of the poet-historian, W. Bilderdijk. The great struggle for the freedom of the church had just commenced when Van Raalte graduated, in 1835, from the university. He was one of the suspects, and the Provincial Ecclesiastical Board of South Holland refused to admit him to the ministry unless he would solemnly promise unequivocal submission to the rules of the church. He refused, and joined the

hated "Seceders," who had raised the banner of freedom. By them he was ordained to the ministry, and with them he shared to the fullest extent the cruel persecutions which, to the lasting shame of Holland, raged against the new movement for several years. On that same occasion, in the midst of the brethren who met as a free synod at Amsterdam in the early summer of 1836, he married his estimable life companion, Christina Johanna De Moen, a daughter of Benjamin De Moen, a highly respected burgher of Leyden, and Johanna Wilhelmina Menzel. Of this union several children were born, who are highly connected in this community.

Early in the '40s a strong migratory movement began to develop itself in the Netherlands, where the situation, both ecclesiastically and socially, had grown insufferable. Hundreds prepared to leave the Fatherland, and in 1846 Dr. Van Raalte, who had just passed through a critical illness, decided to become the leader of the movement, which had the Western States of North America for its objective point. He arrived with a large company of pioneers, in a comparatively small sailing-vessel, "The Southerner," at New York in October, 1846; and after a brief delay led his followers as far West as Detroit, where they passed the first part of the winter. Mr. Van Raalte, himself, pressed on, and in the severe winter cold of 1846-47 explored the greater part of the present Ottawa County, where he was hospitably received and aided by the Rev. S. Smith, a missionary of the Presbyterian Church among the Ottawas. The Indians, well acquainted with the secrets of the vast maiden forest, materially aided Mr. Van Raalte in his explorations, and he decided to select this spot for colonization.

Returning to his followers, he reached these parts again with a devoted band of pioneers, marching single file along Indian trails, on the 9th of February, 1847. It is impossible to describe in this brief sketch the deadly struggle waged by the pioneers with the forest tangles and wild animals; with inadequate food and insufficient shelter; with summer heat and winter cold; with the malarial effluvia of the swampy forests, and the resulting decimating diseases; with homesickness and des-

pondency, with detractions and evil reports, and all manner of discouragement. With God's help they persisted and prevailed. Dr. Van Raalte was the head and heart of the enterprise, and his death, in the early years of the history of the Colonies, would have precipitated the whole desperate undertaking of the inexperienced and poverty-stricken settlers in hopeless ruin and confusion.

The broad, well-tilled acres, the cozy homes nestling against the shoulders of the rolling hills, the abundant evidence of affluence and good cheer appealing to the eye in every direction in the settlements in Ottawa County; the thriving city of Holland, Phoenix-like risen in renewed beauty from the ashes of the destructive fire of 1871; the flourishing Hope College, founded by Mr. Van Raalte at Holland, and to-day the best educational centre of Western Michigan; all these bear the imprint of the man and the leader, and are the silent witnesses of his signal success. Truly this man built better than he knew, and succeeded in rearing for himself a mausoleum which will outwear the destructive onset of time. In 1849, Mr. Van Raalte and his followers joined the Reformed (Dutch) Church in America, the oldest Presbyterian Church on this continent. And in this ecclesiastical connection the settlements now spread far and wide over our Western States have developed into a strong branch of said church, numbering fifteen thousand communicants, with one hundred and thirty churches and some ninety pastors.

As a leader Mr. Van Raalte had the gift of wonderful versatility and ingenuity; as a preacher he excelled in rhetorical power and a clear, analytical insight into God's Word and the hidden ways of men's hearts. He was a man of power and often made his hearers tremble before the majesty of God. The University of New York and Rutgers' College at New Brunswick, N. J., simultaneously bestowed upon him the title of Doctor of Divinity. When the War of the Rebellion broke out his voice rang out clear and strong in defense of the Union, and willingly he gave his own sons for the defense and establishment of human rights and the life of the Union. His wife passed away, after years of suffering under a frail constitution, on



the 30th of June, 1871. This blow, quickly followed by the ruinous fire of Holland in October of the same year, destroyed the remaining strength of the man, and he fell into a slow decay, under which he succumbed, after several apparent rallies, on the 7th of November, 1876, in the midst of the bitterly contested general election of that year.

The strongest proof of his hold on his people is, perhaps, the fact that the announcement of his death at this critical political juncture paralyzed the rancorous party spirit of election day, and made common mourners of bitter political antagonists. The funeral was the largest ever held in Ottawa County, and in his death one passed away who is justly called "a man mighty in words and deeds." He was one of the pioneers of the State—a citizen of whom Michigan may justly boast, a man of God and a man of men, one of Heaven's true noblemen. "*Requiescat in pace.*"



CLIFFORD S. GAMBLE, the popular and efficient County Surveyor and City Engineer of Muskegon, Mich., has for a number of years been intimately associated with the public interests of the Wolverine State, but is a native of Washington County, Pa., where he was born May 22, 1852. Our subject is the son of Aaron and Mary (Shortle) Gamble, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father, a man of learning and culture, was long a prominent physician of the Quaker State, and for many years enjoyed an extended practice in Pittsburgh, Pa., and also in Washington County, where he had a host of friends, by whom he was highly regarded as a man, citizen and physician. Twice married, he survived to many years of usefulness, and passed away mourned as a public loss in Washington County, Pa. Clifford S. Gamble was the youngest son of the first marriage, and spent the days of boyhood in Washington County. There he attended school and later entered Hoggs Summit Normal School, in Somerset, Washington County,

and obtained a thorough knowledge of civil engineering. With honor completing a course of study, our subject was now prepared to enter with confidence upon his career in life as a business man. Determined to try his fortunes in the broader fields of the West, he bade adieu to his early home and the scenes of childhood and journeyed to Michigan.

First employed by a railway company, Mr. Gamble became one of an engineering crew working for the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad and was soon enabled to render valuable service to the corporation. Young, energetic and ambitious, our subject allowed no opportunity for advancement to escape him, and won his way steadily upward in the esteem of all who came in contact with him. In 1881, locating in Muskegon, Mr. Gamble met with encouraging success, and after a time became the Assistant City Engineer, a position of responsibility, which he occupied ably for many years. While transacting the business of his office he made many friends by his courtesy and efficiency and gave universal satisfaction to the general public. Some time afterward he became associated with the Muskegon Improvement Company and did the greater part of the surveying and platting of Muskegon Heights, one of the handsomest suburbs of this flourishing city. In 1892 our subject was elected on the Republican ticket County Surveyor, his term of office being two years. In 1893 he was appointed City Engineer of Muskegon, and in his dual work of Surveyor and Engineer leaves no duty undone, but, faithful to each trust reposed in him, is constantly winning golden opinions from his fellow-citizens and the community at large.

Since accepting the position of City Engineer of Muskegon, our subject has rendered invaluable service in his department and made many suggestions which cannot fail, if acted upon, to redound to the great benefit of Muskegon and her rapidly increasing population. In the year 1890 were united in marriage Clifford S. Gamble and Miss Dora Harrison, an accomplished young lady of Muskegon, and the daughter of William H. Harrison, a leading citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Gamble are the parents of a daughter, Maud. Politically a

stalwart Republican, our subject is intelligently interested in the questions of the day and occupies a high place in the local councils of his party. In their attractive residence, No. 237 Sixth Street, Mr. and Mrs. Gamble welcome numerous friends and, social favorites, take an active part in the good work and benevolent enterprises of their home city.



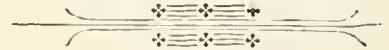
**J**OHN DELANEY. Many of Michigan's most enterprising citizens have emigrated to the United States from the Green Isle of Erin, bringing with them habits of industry, perseverance and economy. In the various occupations and professions they have gained a competency, or perchance wealth, while at the same time they have established for themselves an enviable reputation as citizens. Ottawa County contains a large number of farmers whose ancestry extends back through a long line of Irish forefathers, and in this class we present the name of John Delaney, an agriculturist residing in Tallmadge Township.

Born on the Emerald Isle in 1831, our subject is the son of Daniel and Hannah (Cudhy) Delaney, being their eldest child. At the age of eight years he accompanied his parents to America and settled with them in Dutchess County, N. Y., where the elder Mr. Delaney followed the occupation of a gardener. There John grew to manhood, receiving a common-school education and afterward learning the trade of a blacksmith. In 1851, the family came to Michigan, and our subject stopped at Grand Rapids, where he learned the trade of a machinist. After spending three years in Grand Rapids, he proceeded to Chicago, where he spent the three following years.

From Chicago Mr. Delaney went to the "Sunny South," and secured employment in the city of New Orleans. So well was he pleased with this part of our country, and so profitable did his work prove, that he remained eleven years in New

Orleans before returning to the North, in the latter part of 1871. After a visit of one month in Michigan, he once again proceeded Southward, and continued to live in New Orleans until the year 1884. His brother dying in Michigan about that time, he returned here in order to serve as administrator of the estate, and has ever since lived on the farm where he now resides. He engages in the cultivation of three hundred acres, raising wheat, hay and corn, and marketing his products at Grand Rapids.

In February, 1864, Mr. Delaney was united in marriage with Miss Aheia Madeline Prophet, who was of English descent. After having become the mother of two children, this estimable lady passed from earth in October, 1868. Mr. Delaney and his daughter, Hannah Barbara, reside at the old home, surrounded by all the comforts that enhance the pleasure of living. They belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and are firm in their allegiance to the doctrines of that religious organization. In politics, Mr. Delaney is conservative, and usually casts his ballot for the candidate whom he deems best qualified for the office in question, irrespective of political beliefs.



**B**URNETT FULKERSON, a progressive farmer of Muskegon County, and the owner and occupant of a valuable farm consisting of one hundred and sixty acres in Casenovia Township, was born in the village of Moscow, Hillsdale County, Mich., December 3, 1836. He is of German descent and represents a family whose members early emigrated to the United States, settling in New Jersey. In that State the paternal grandfather of our subject was born, and thence he removed to Tompkins County, N. Y., becoming a pioneer of the town of Dryden, where he died in 1833. He and his wife, whose maiden name was Sally Cook, were the parents of five sons and four daughters who grew to maturity:

Silas, Benjamin, Lot, Calvin, Burnett, Jane, Maria, Ann and one whose name cannot now be recalled. The family has been represented in the various wars, and Burnett lost six sons during the Rebellion, all of them dying in active service.

The father of our subject, Lot Fulkerson, was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., December 23, 1810, and in his youth learned the trade of a millwright, which he followed with considerable success. In 1834 he came to Michigan and settled in Hillsdale County, where he entered and improved one hundred and sixty acres of land. Later he traded this property for an hotel in Moscow, and thus became identified with the early history of that village, of which he was an influential citizen. For two terms he served as Sheriff of Hillsdale County, and in other ways represented the people, his ability and energy contributing to his success, both in public affairs and private life.

During the Civil War, Mr. Fulkerson, Sr., offered his service on behalf of the Union, but was rejected on account of physical disability. Prior to the Rebellion, he was a Democrat in party principles, but afterward became identified with the Republican party. While serving as Postmaster at Casenovia, under the administration of President Buchanan, he took forty or fifty copies of the New York *Tribune*, which he distributed among his neighbors. Being requested by the Government to either discontinue the papers or surrender the office, he chose the latter alternative. However, he became so indignant at the treatment he had received that he left the Democratic party and afterward was a strong Republican until late in life, when he affiliated with the Greenback party.

Removing to Casenovia, on the Kent County side, in 1849, Mr. Fulkerson entered one hundred and sixty acres upon the present site of the village. He erected and managed the first hotel in the town, and contributed to the development of the place during the earliest period of its history. In youth he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but afterward rejected Christianity, and at the time of his death, April 9, 1888, was an admirer of Tom Paine, Voltaire, Huxley and

Robert Ingersoll. He was twice married, and by his first union four children were born: Sarah, now Mrs. Joseph Kies; Harrison, who was killed by a falling log at the age of nineteen; Burnett, of this sketch; and William H., who died at the age of thirty-six years. The second wife of Mr. Fulkerson was Rebecca Hiser, who died in Kansas in 1892.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Maria Swansbrough, and was born in Dryden, Tompkins County, N. Y. She was twice married, her second union being with Samuel Northrop. An active and prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and one of the first members of that denomination in Casenovia, she was greatly mourned when she passed away in November, 1891. Her ancestors were for a few generations residents of Vermont, and removed from that State to New York. The subject of this sketch was educated in Casenovia and for three months attended the first school taught in this place, R. D. Merritt being the instructor. The latter received, instead of money, five acres of cleared land in return for teaching three months.

His father giving him forty acres, our subject in exchange worked on the home farm one year. He has steadily and with perseverance worked his way upward, until he now ranks among the progressive farmers of the county. For ten years he served as Superintendent of the Newaygo Manufacturing Company, and for the past ten years has engaged in cutting lumber on his farm. Of his property, fifty acres are planted with trees of various kinds, including apple, peach and plum. He has always refused political honors, but never forgets to cast his ballot for the candidates of the Prohibition party. Socially, he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

November 25, 1876, Mr. Fulkerson was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Myers, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, January 4, 1848. Her father, Eli Myers, was born in Maryland, and in early life followed the trade of a signmaker. After his marriage to Miss Susanna Kitch, he resided in Ohio for a number of years, and thence, about 1853, removed to Indiana, settling in Huntington County. In 1869, he removed to Hes-

peria, Mich., where he resided for three years. At the present time he resides upon a farm in Newaygo County. He and his estimable wife are both Christians, she being a member of the German Baptist denomination, while he belongs to the Church of Christ. They are the parents of five children: Eliza, Daniel, Joseph, Mary and Sarah. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Fulkerson was Joseph Myers, who passed his entire life in Maryland, his father having emigrated thither from Germany. Our subject and his wife are the parents of two children, Lottie E. and Henry B.



**S**OLON DAGGETT, one of the oldest settlers of Ottawa County, Mich., and an honored resident of Chester Township, owning an interest in the old Daggett homestead, a finely cultivated farm, improved with a large and handsome residence and substantial and commodious barns, occupies one of the valued landmarks of past experience and present prosperity. Our subject, born in Vermont, was the son of Lorenzo and Sophia (Rolfe) Daggett, the descendants of highly respected New England ancestry, prominent in the early history of our country. The maternal and paternal grandfathers both fought bravely in the War for Independence, and the Rolfes trace back their lineage to the John Rolfe who married Pocahontas, the daughter of the great Indian chief, Powhatan. Lorenzo Daggett was a cooper by trade, and, educated amid the Green Mountains of his native State, had arrived at middle age before he decided to follow the tide of emigration to the West. In 1838, with his family, he journeyed to Michigan, and, locating in Ingham County, engaged in farming in a sparsely settled district, of which Jackson was the nearest trading-point. There were no public roads leading from the farm to Jackson, and the woods held many wild animals, bears, wolves and other game being abundant. At the expiration of eleven years the Daggetts moved to the homestead where our subject now resides.

At that time the nearest neighbor, William Rogers, was two miles distant, and for some years the families did their milling at Grand Rapids. The father continued to make his home upon this farm until his death, in August, 1856, when he passed away mourned as a pioneer citizen, a true Christian and sincere friend. He and his estimable wife were the parents of nine children, eight of whom lived to years of maturity. The eldest was Jane S.; Emily, deceased, was the wife of William Hiller; Solon was the third in order of birth; Orange resides in Ravenna; George lives in California; Henry is likewise a citizen of California; Pluma E. is the wife of O. F. Fox, of Ravenna; and M. L. is a citizen of California. The mother, after a long life of usefulness, entered into rest in 1858. The parents were devout members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, in which the father had filled various offices. He was politically in early life a Democrat, but later became a strong Republican, and was intelligently posted in both local and national affairs. Solon Daggett received a thorough English education in the excellent schools of Grand Haven and Grand Rapids. At the death of his father, he was obliged to return home and take charge of the business and the property, there being quite a large estate.

Our subject, then but twenty-two years of age, managed the various interests, and continued to handle the same unreservedly until the death of his mother in 1858. Some years later, in 1864, Solon Daggett and Miss Mary E. Williams were united in marriage. Mrs. Daggett is a native of Erie County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Oliver and Mehitable (Austin) Williams, the father being a native of Connecticut, while Mrs. Williams was one of the first children born in Hamburg, N. Y. The Austins were among the early settlers of Vermont, and various members of the family served with distinction in the War for Independence; others have been favorably and widely known in later days throughout the East and West. Mr. and Mrs. Williams, emigrating from the East, located in Michigan in 1856, and settled in Ottawa County, now a portion of Muskegon County. Mr. Williams was a farmer, and, surviving until 1868, industriously

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*Geo. F. Porter*

titled the fertile soil of the Wolverine State. His excellent wife, who died in 1886, was a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a devout Christian woman. The five children who blessed their home were: Mary E; Emily L., deceased, wife of Walter Cole; Morgan T., a citizen of Montana; John A., residing in Allendale Township; and Joseph A., deceased. The latter's family reside in Grand Rapids. The Williamses from early days occupied a leading position in Ottawa County, and commanded universal esteem. Mr. and Mrs. Daggett, immediately succeeding their marriage, settled upon the Daggett homestead, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres, seventy-five of which are under a high state of cultivation and improved with buildings second to none in this part of the county. The pleasant home has been brightened by the presence of three children. Emily I. is the wife of H. Merriek; Olivia teaches in Whitehall; and Loretta is the youngest-born. Mr. and Mrs. Daggett occupy high positions of useful influence, are members of the Free-will Baptist Church, and are foremost in religious and benevolent enterprise. Numbered with the leading families of the county, they take a prominent part in all matters of mutual welfare. A stalwart Republican of the township, our subject has served with efficiency for nine years as constable, and in both his private life and public work commands the high regard of his fellow-townsmen.



**H**ON. GEORGE F. PORTER, in 1891 elected State Senator, representing the Twenty-first Senatorial District of Michigan, has long been a popular citizen of Chester Township, Ottawa County, and is one of the most prosperous and progressive general agriculturists in this part of the Wolverine State. Mr. Porter is a native of New York, and was born in Madison County August 28, 1832. His parents, Curtis and Hannah (Holt) Porter, were natives of New England, the

father having been born in Connecticut, and the mother in New Hampshire. They settled in the Empire State some years previous to their marriage. The mother of our subject was the second wife of the father, who had married in his native State and by his first wife had two children, David C., and Betsey E., Mrs. John Bennett, both of whom are deceased.

The parents of Mr. Porter were blessed by the birth of three children: Henry B., residing in Kent County, Mich.; Robert E., deceased; and George F., our subject. The father emigrated to Michigan in 1847, and settling in Kent County engaged in the pursuit of agriculture. He was by trade a brick and stone mason, and assisted in building the Pierce and Taylor Blocks and many of the first good houses of Kent County. He resided in Grand Rapids until 1865, when he came to this township and purchased forty acres of land, on which he resided until his death, October 30, 1873. His wife survived until the 3d of March, 1878. The father served with courage in the War of 1812 as Sergeant of his company. He was fraternally connected with the Masonic order and assisted in the organization of the lodge at Lisbon. He and his wife were valued members of the Episcopal Church. An able official, he held many important public offices in Kent County, in all of which he served with fidelity and efficiency.

George F. Porter was educated in Grand Rapids Union School. He began life for himself at the age of twenty-one as a general farmer on rented land in Kent County. He resided in the same locality until 1861, and beside the pursuit of agriculture was for some time employed in gristmills. In 1857 he purchased the homestead, consisting of eighty acres, then in a wild state, and locating thereon in 1861 entered with ambitious enterprise upon its cultivation and improvement. During the war he built a good house, and from dawn to eve labored to bring the farm up to a profitable state of cultivation. Financially prospered, he added to the original property eighty acres, and of the valuable one hundred and sixty acres he has one hundred and twenty whose fertile fields annually bespeak an abundant harvest.

Beginning life with little or no moneyed capi-

tal, his hope, courage, enthusiasm and tireless industry have wrought results of which our honored subject may well be proud. A handsome and commodious residence, two large barns and numerous outhouses attest the thrift and plenty of the Porter farm. The second year after coming to this locality Mr. Porter had the misfortune to lose his team and was then obliged to go in debt for another. He used oxen at that time, and it was five or six years later before he owned his first horse.

In 1855 were united in marriage George F. Porter and Miss Delilah E. Champlin, a native of Delaware County, N. Y., and the adopted daughter of Jeffrey C. Champlin, a highly esteemed resident of the Empire State. Our subject and his accomplished wife became the parents of nine bright and intelligent children, of whom but four lived to years of maturity. Eugene A. is a resident of Chester Township; Mary E. is the wife of Robert Lange; Ferdinand is a citizen of Kent County; Charles G. is attending school. Mrs. Porter, a lady of high worth and ability, passed away deeply mourned on the 2d of November, 1882. She was a member of the Free-will Baptist Church and a leader in religious work. Upon the 2d of February, 1884, our subject married Miss Mary A. Batson, a native of this State and a daughter of Aaron Batson, an early and highly respected settler of Chester Township, who resides upon the place where he located in 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Porter have two interesting children, Mila H. and Gaylord F. Mrs. Porter is a prominent member of the Free-will Baptist Church and occupies a leading social position. Our subject is also connected by membership with the same denomination and is a liberal giver in behalf of religious extension and church work.

Politically a Democrat, Mr. Porter has served with ability upon the township and county committees and conventions of the party. In 1863 he was elected Township Treasurer for one term. In 1867 he was chosen Supervisor, and for seventeen years in all, with intermissions, faithfully discharged the onerous duties of the position. For one term he occupied the office of Justice of the Peace. As State Senator, elected in 1891, he is

a member of the Committee on Finance and Highways of the State and has also served upon other important committees, where he has distinguished himself by fidelity to his constituents and devotion to public interests. A self-made man, having through his individual efforts won his way upward, he has made a record in his private life and public service of which his family and descendants may well be proud.



LEONARD EYKE, Secretary of the Maxwell Lumber Company at Muskegon, was born in the Netherlands, September 12, 1813, being a son of John and Josey (Devries) Eyke, who passed their entire lives in Holland. Leonard spent the years of his boyhood upon his father's farm, and for a time was a student in the schools of Zeeland, where he acquired a practical knowledge of the Dutch language. Upon attaining the age of nineteen years, he determined to emigrate to the United States, and accordingly took passage upon a vessel bound for America. Soon after landing at New York City, he came West to Michigan and settled in Muskegon.

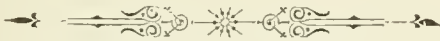
Here Mr. Eyke secured employment in a saw-mill, and for three years was in the employ of the firm of Hackley & Son, later working for different parties. In 1879 he formed a partnership with J. L. Murray, under the firm title of Eyke & Murray, and for a number of years engaged in the inspection of pine lumber. In 1882, he became agent for John Murray & Co., establishing his office at Grand Rapids and remaining thus engaged for eleven years. Afterward he became interested in the firm of Murray, Wilson & Co., manufacturers of lumber.

On the 12th of May, 1888, the Maxwell Lumber Company was incorporated with a capital of \$50,000 and the following officers: P. W. Maxwell, President; J. L. Murray, Vice-President; Matthew Wilson, Treasurer; and Leonard Eyke, Secretary. The office of the company is located at



No. 542 West Western Avenue. They deal in pine, hemlock, and other lumber at wholesale, handling about twenty-five million feet annually. Some thirty acres of land are required for storage, as the average amount held in stock reaches eight to ten million feet. About one thousand feet of dock front furnish vessel privileges, and convenient side tracks give access by rail. The gentlemen forming this company are energetic and reliable business men, thoroughly conversant with all the practical details of this trade. In addition to the sale of lumber, they engage extensively in the manufacture of lath and shingles.

In 1869 Mr. Eyke married Miss Lena Cowen, of Muskegon, Mich., and they became the parents of two sons, John and Samuel. After the death of Mrs. Lena Eyke, our subject was married, in 1881, to Miss Mary Hockaday, a native of England, and at the time of her marriage a resident of Chicago. One son, William Leonard, has blessed this union. In his social relations, Mr. Eyke is identified with Muskegon Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W. In politics an ardent Democrat, he has always been prominent in public affairs and has served in numerous official positions, including the office of City Treasurer, which he filled for one term. He and his wife have a pleasant home at No. 268 West Western Avenue, in which they cordially welcome their hosts of warm personal friends.



**H**ENRY D. WEATHERWAX, formerly the Sheriff of Ottawa County, and now a prosperous agriculturist of Georgetown Township, was born in Peru, Clinton County, N. Y., April 19, 1833, and traces his lineage to Germany. His father, Jacob M., was also a native of the village of Peru, and followed farming pursuits in New York State and Michigan until his death. He married Miss Annis Ketchum, who was born in New York, of Scotch parentage. They were the parents of seven sons and three daughters, Henry D. being the fourth-born.

When an infant six weeks old our subject was taken by his parents to Orleans County, N. Y., where he remained until he was four years of age. Thence he accompanied his parents to Michigan and settled in Adrian, where he attended school; he was also a student in the Hillsdale College. Early in life he learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed in connection with farming. In 1859 he went to California, where he remained for two years, engaged in mill-building. At the time when the war excitement had reached its highest pitch he returned to Michigan. His brothers enlisted in the service and left him to superintend the management of their extensive lumber interests. He himself did not enlist, although for a time he was engaged as provost-guard.

After the close of the war, Mr. Weatherwax continued his farming business in Georgetown Township, and also dealt extensively in land, buying and selling property in this and adjoining counties. In the mean time he held responsible trusts, such as Township Supervisor, etc. In 1869 he was elected to the position of Sheriff of his county, and removed to Grand Haven, the county seat. He served the people in this capacity for two terms of two years each, which is the statutory length of office for one man. At the expiration of his term of office he returned to his farm, where he has since resided, engaged in raising grain and stock.

In 1863 Mr. Weatherwax married Miss Adeline V., daughter of George and Rachel F. (Boyd) Taylor, natives respectively of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Mrs. Weatherwax was born in Maine, and came to Michigan when five years old, receiving her education in Hillsdale, this State. For five years she was a teacher in various parts of this State, and has been a prominent factor in the educational affairs of this county. She served for two years on the Town Board, and eight years on the County Board, a part of that time being its Secretary, and also serving as its Chairman. She enjoys the distinction of being the first lady to hold these positions in the county. In her religious convictions, she is a member of the Episcopal Church. She has been the mother of two children: Helen, who died in infancy; and Harry,

who resides with his parents. Mrs. Weatherwax was appointed by the Congressman of her district Delegate to the Woman's Congress that convened in Chicago during the World's Fair, in 1893.

Socially, the subject of this notice is identified with Crescent Lodge No. 322, at Grandville, and has held a number of offices in the lodge, being one of its prominent members. He is a Republican in politics, and has frequently been elected upon the ticket of his party to serve in positions of prominence. In addition to serving as Sheriff for four years, he has been Supervisor for six years, and Justice of the Peace for eight years.



**P**ORTER P. MISNER, Secretary of the Lakeside Manufacturing Company, Muskegon, is a sound and responsible business man, and has materially aided in the development of Muskegon's flourishing industries. He is a native of this State, born in Kent County August 4, 1841, and the son of Christopher Misner and grandson of John Misner. Christopher Misner was born in Canada July 9, 1806, and there grew to mature years. In 1837 he came to Kent County, Mich., and became one of the successful farmers of that county, and there his death occurred in 1892. He had married Miss Sarah Perrin, a native of Canada, and the daughter of Thomas Perrin. She died in the year 1883, when in her sixty-eighth year. Both were most worthy and esteemed citizens of the community in which they lived and had many warm friends.

Porter P. Misner, the sixth in order of birth of eight children born to the above-mentioned couple, was reared on his father's farm in Kent County, and as soon as his physical strength was sufficient to enable him to wield the implements of husbandry, he began contributing to his own support. His scholastic training was received in the district schools and he continued to attend the same, principally in the winter time, until twenty-one years

of age, thus receiving a good, practical education. After leaving the schoolroom he began clerking in the hotel at Casnovia and was thus engaged for two years. In 1869 he came to Muskegon and became a member of the firm of Montague & Hamilton.

In the year 1873 he engaged in lumber enterprises of all kinds, in different mills, and assisted in organizing the Lakeside Manufacturing Company in 1891. He was made Secretary of the same and has filled that position in a satisfactory and efficient manner up to the present time. He is also Director of the Muskegon Electric Street Railway, and is emphatically a business man. The leading points of his character are energy, quick conception and integrity. In his choice of a companion he selected Miss Sarah Dow, a native of Canada, but a resident of Muskegon County, Mich., at the time of their marriage. She was the daughter of Lorenzo Dow, also of Canada. Mr and Mrs. Misner's union was celebrated on the 12th of June, 1864, and one son, Fred, was the result of this marriage. He is now a prominent young business man of Muskegon, and is a member of the firm of Shaw & Misner, of that place.

In his political views Mr. Misner is a Democrat and has held a number of political positions. He was Treasurer of the village of Lakeside for three years and represented the Eighth Ward in the City Council, besides holding numerous other positions. Socially, he is a Mason and a Knight Templar in that organization. He has a pleasant and comfortable home at No. 60 Harrison Street.



**H**OMER H. HAYES. The soil of Michigan is in many places peculiarly adapted to the raising of small fruits, and many of the most successful citizens now residing in the State have secured prosperity through the medium of this occupation. Fruit-growing is one of the prominent industries of Ottawa County, and among those who pursue this vocation may

be mentioned Mr. Hayes, who owns eighty acres in Tallmadge Township. He is an extensive fruit farmer, his specialties being grapes, peaches and pears. He has ten acres planted with Niagara grapes, in the raising of which he has been especially successful.

The family of which our subject is a member is of German-Scotch descent, and has been represented in America for several generations. The parents of our subject, Ira and Roxie (Kawkins) Hayes, were natives of Vermont, the former having been born in 1801. They had a family of thirteen children, the third of whom, Homer H., was born in Chenango County, N. Y., February 25, 1834. At the age of three years he was taken by his parents to Canada, where he remained until he was eighteen, meantime spending his winters in the schoolroom and his summers in farm work.

In 1852 Mr. Hayes came to Michigan and settled in Lamont, Ottawa County, where for four years he worked as a day laborer. Carefully saving his earnings, he was enabled at the expiration of that time to purchase a tract of eighty acres and embark in agricultural pursuits. He was unfortunate, however, for during the same year in which he bought his farm he was struck by lightning and injured to such an extent that he was unable to perform any manual labor for some time thereafter. Indeed, he has never entirely regained his health and the shock still affects his nerves.

After recovering sufficiently, Mr. Hayes attempted to join the Union army, but the physicians pronounced him unable to do active service and he was rejected. However, he procured permission to serve in the Quartermaster's Department and filled that position for eighteen days, when he was taken ill and forced to resign. Upon returning home, he and his wife secured positions as attendants in the Kalamazoo Asylum for the Insane, where they remained for six years. They then removed to Muskegon, where Mr. Hayes worked at the trade of a carpenter and joiner for two years, and afterward conducted a boarding-house for three years. Upon coming to Tallmadge Township in 1870, he purchased the place where he has since resided.

In 1858 Mr. Hayes married Miss Alena Smallman, and one child, Harley H., has been born to bless the union. He is a young man of ability, and makes his home with his parents. Politically, our subject is a Republican, and always advocates party candidates and principles. Socially, he belongs to Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M., in which he is prominent. He is not identified with any religious organization, but contributes to the support of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mrs. Hayes is an active member.



**C**HARLES H. HILLS, the able Vice-President of the Iron and Steel Company, Muskegon, Mich., has during his entire life been closely identified with the history of his present home city, where he was born December 24, 1863. His parents, Charles T. and Jane Hills, early locating in the thriving young city of Muskegon, were soon numbered among the influential and leading residents, and while the father attained to business prominence the mother was widely known for her social qualities and accomplishments. The father, a native of Bennington, Vt., and born November 14, 1821, removed to Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1838, being then a bright, ambitious and energetic youth of seventeen years.

Our subject, Charles H. Hills, received his preparatory education in the schools of Muskegon, and later entered the State University at Ann Arbor, where he pursued his studies for three years, and then, returning to Muskegon, became connected, in the responsible capacity of assistant book-keeper, with the firm of Ryerson, Hills & Co. He was in the employ of the firm for several years and afterward assumed the duties of book-keeper of the lumber firm.

July 10, 1889, were united in marriage Charles H. Hills and Miss Laura McLeod, of Muskegon, and daughter of James McLeod. Our subject and his cultured wife are the happy parents of a

charming little daughter, Julia T. Mr. and Mrs. Hills, who occupy a social position of prominence, reside in a beautiful home located on the corner of Larch and Sanford Streets and there entertain in royal style their numerous friends and acquaintances.



**W**ILLIAM D. KELLY, Secretary of the Muskegon Chamber of Commerce, and one of the representative and public-spirited citizens, has the honor of being a native of Michigan, his birth having occurred in Ferrysburg, Ottawa County, November 26, 1865. His father was a native of New York, but his mother was born on the Emerald Isle. In the family of seven children he was the fourth in order of birth. His boyhood was passed in his native city, where he acquired a good education, being graduated from the High School. He afterward served as book-keeper at that place for nine months, and then came to Muskegon to accept a similar position with Dennis Smith & Co., one of the principal dry-goods and house-furnishing firms of Muskegon, in whose employ he remained for two years.

On the expiration of that period, Mr. Kelly became reporter for the *Muskegon News*, and subsequently became a member of the Simmons & Kinne Manufacturing Company, who did a planing-mill and lumber business. For four years Mr. Kelly devoted his energies to that enterprise, and then embarked in the wholesale lumber business, under the firm name of W. D. Kelly & Co. In 1889 he established himself in the real-estate business, handling city property and farming lands, also pine and timber lands. In the fall of 1892, in connection with others, he organized the Muskegon Chamber of Commerce, with Newcomb McGraft President, Thomas Hume Vice-President, William D. Kelly Secretary, and Andrew Wierengo Treasurer. It is a strong organization, made up of the business men of the city, and for the benefit of the fast-growing city of Muskegon.

Mr. Kelly was married on the 28th of August,

1888, to Miss Ziplia Wheeler, of Muskegon, daughter of James E. Wheeler. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and was one of the prime movers in the organization of the Republican Club of this city, of which he was made Secretary. He served as Chairman of the Republican City Committee in 1892, and in 1890 was the Republican candidate for the Legislature. Receiving the nomination, he ran against a strong Democratic opponent, and although the district is Democratic, he was defeated only by a small majority. He often takes part in campaign work and is a good speaker. Socially, he is a member of the Maccabees. Besides his interest in Muskegon property, he is connected with his brother in the ownership of the Colfax Hotel, in Colfax, Iowa. He is a man of excellent business and executive ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and his good management has made him eminently successful. The prosperity and growth of Muskegon owes not a little to his untiring efforts, and its welfare has been greatly advanced through his labors.



**G**EORGE HOFFMAN, the able and enterprising senior partner of the prosperous and well-known firm of Hoffman Bros., dealers in flour, feed, hay and grain, at No. 122 Pine Street, Muskegon, Mich., has for nearly a quarter of a century been a resident of his present locality, and throughout the changing years has been identified with the growth and upward progress of his home city. Our subject is a native of the Netherlands, and was born in the year 1850. His father, John Hoffman, an honest, hard-working man of keen intelligence and excellent business ability, likewise born in Holland, early determined to give his children the advantages offered in the United States, but year after year passed and yet he remained in the Netherlands, though his son George had long preceded him to this country, embarking in 1873 for America. He journeyed to the West and made his home in Muskegon, where after a life of busy usefulness he passed away mourned by many friends. The

mother, Wielbe (Geerling) Hoffman, spent her entire life amid the familiar scenes of her youth. She was reared, educated and married in her native land, Holland, and there ended her uneventful life, entering into rest beloved by all who knew her.

George Hoffman was educated in the common schools of Holland and early began the battle of life. In his home trained to habits of self-reliant industry, he arrived at manhood well fitted to make his upward way in the great world, and was but nineteen years of age when he resolved to seek his fortune in the United States. After a safe voyage our subject landed in the city of New York, but did not make any stay in the metropolis of the Empire State, journeying at once to Michigan, and locating in Muskegon, where he immediately received employment and for four years successfully ran a sawmill. Mr. Hoffman was for seven successive years engaged in milling, and worked for the City Milling Company five years, and later was employed in the feed store of J. M. M. Goodspeed. In 1887, in partnership with his brother John, our subject embarked in his present business, which, from the first commanding an excellent trade, has rapidly increased its proportions and now enjoys a custom that is one of the best in this line in the city of Muskegon. Devoting himself to the demands of daily business, Mr. Hoffman has been financially prospered, meeting with the reward well earned by his sterling integrity and practical industry.

John Hoffman, a brother and partner of our subject, emigrated to America at the age of seven years and when a little lad entered a public school of Muskegon, receiving a good education in the common branches of study. As soon as old enough he engaged in milling and ran a saw and lath mill for a period of seven years. He worked for John Albert one and a-half years, then in 1887, entering into his present partnership, has been financially successful. An ambitious and energetic young man, he has many friends, and, politically a Republican, is well posted on local and national issues. Unmarried and a social favorite, Mr. Hoffman is widely known and makes his home at No. 61 Muskegon Avenue.

In the year 1876 were united in marriage George Hoffman and Miss Richey De Grave, a native of Holland. In the pleasant home on Catherine Street, Muskegon, has gathered a happy family of seven children, two sons and five daughters. Wielbe is the eldest-born; then follow Hilda, Anna, James, Sarah, John and Johanna, all of whom will enjoy an opportunity for an extended education. Our subject is fraternally a valued member of the Mac-eabees, and politically is a Republican and an ardent advocate of the "Party of Reform." He has never been troubled by aspirations for political office, but, a true and loyal citizen of his adopted country, is ever ready to lend a helping hand in matters of public enterprise and improvement.



**CAPT. SETH LEE.** of Muskegon, is the owner of the North Muskegon Ferry and Tug Boat Line. He has experienced the life of a sailor for many years, and is widely known among the sailors on the Lakes. He is a native of Ohio, the place of his birth being in Lorain County, while the date is 1834. His parents were George and Sallie (Rose) Lee, the former a native of the Buckeye State, and the latter of Albany, N. Y. The ancestors of the Lee family came from Germany. The father of our subject emigrated Westward and died in Kalamazoo, Mich., in 1844.

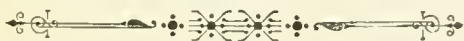
Capt. Lee, whose name heads this record, spent the first ten years of his life in the State of his nativity, and then began sailing as cook on a vessel on the Great Lakes. He was successively promoted from one position to another, until at the early age of nineteen he had become captain of a schooner, the "Ellen Kent," plying between Sandusky and Buffalo. In the capacity of captain he continued to sail on the Great Lakes until 1881, when he purchased the present line of tug boats, which he has operated successfully since.

In 1874, Capt. Lee chose as a companion and

helpmate on life's journey Miss Kittie M. Burroughs, of Buffalo, N. Y., and unto them have been born two children, a son and daughter, Kate B. and Charles Henry. The family reside at No. 172 West Webster Avenue, where they have a spacious and elegant residence, handsomely and richly furnished. In social circles, the Captain and his wife rank high, and throughout the community their friends are many.

In 1885, Capt. Lee began contracting for the laying of cedar pavement, and has since paved a large portion of the streets of Muskegon. He is now engaged in superintending the building of the large Magoon & Kimball Docks. He also owns and operates the People's Steam Laundry of Muskegon, and his various business interests yield him a good return and make him one of the substantial and well-to-do citizens of the community. He possesses excellent business ability and his good management and careful attention to all the details of his business, and his honorable, upright dealings have brought him a reward in the shape of a handsome competence.

The Captain exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and in 1886 he was elected as Alderman of the Third Ward, serving as a member of the Council in a faithful and acceptable manner. Socially, he is connected with Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M. He possesses the genial, kindly nature so characteristic of sailors, and is therefore popular and well liked.



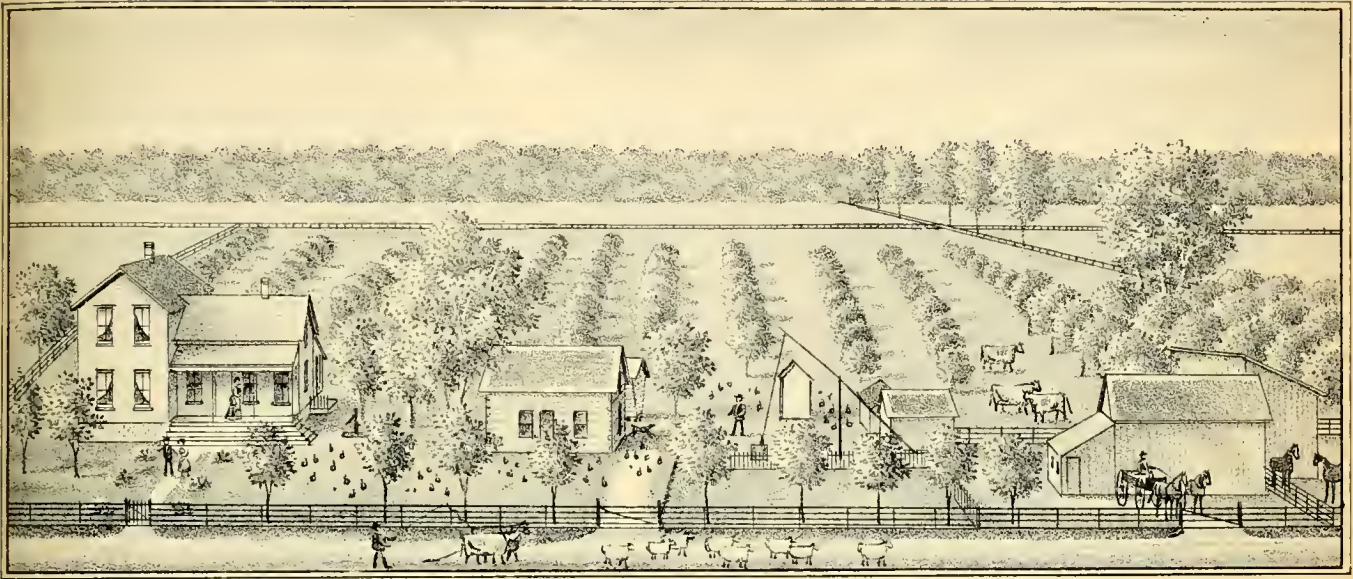
**G**EORGE WASHINGTON JONES, a successful farmer of Muskegon County, and a resident of Eggleston Township, was born in Maine, February 4, 1855. He is a son of David R. and Mattie (Pease) Jones, the former a native of England, and the latter of Maine. The father, who was born in Otley, Suffolk County, England, on the 25th of July, 1810, was a son of Samuel and Mary (Nicolls) Jones, natives of England. At the age of twelve he was apprenticed to learn

the trade of a wheelwright under Samuel Reeves, with whom he remained for a time. Becoming weary of the hardships incident to his apprenticeship, he ran away and enlisted in the English army.

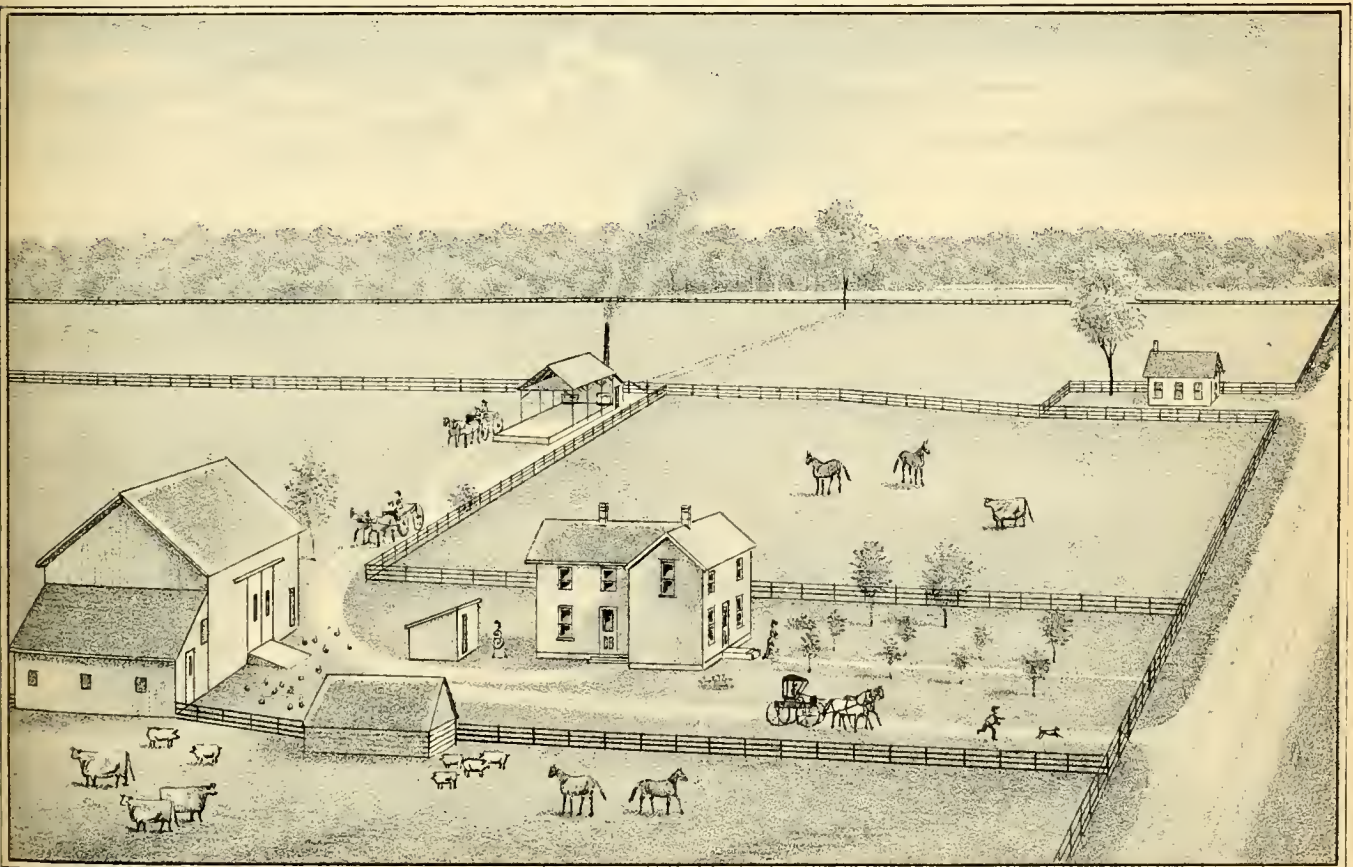
At the age of twenty, having served his full time in the army, the father of our subject came to America and settled in Maine, where he engaged in farming. In 1854 he removed to Michigan and settled in Muskegon County upon the farm he now occupies. Clearing the land of its heavy growth of timber, he built a home in what was an unbroken wilderness, and proceeded to till the soil of his new farm. As time passed by, success crowned his tireless exertions and he attained a position among the foremost of Muskegon's citizens and pioneer farmers. He still survives, being in his eighty-third year (1893). Having been an industrious worker all his life, he feels considerably the inability of old age, and has been practically retired from active pursuits for several years. He is one of the remaining few who are left to tell the story of the early settlement of the country and the experiences of pioneer days.

The first marriage of David R. Jones occurred in 1838 and united him with Miss Nancy, daughter of Joseph Robbins, of Maine. Of this union there were four children born, all of whom are now deceased, and the wife and mother died in 1853. Mr. Jones was again married, in 1854, choosing as his wife Miss Harriet B., daughter of Aaron Pease. Two children resulted from this marriage, of whom George W. is now the only survivor. The death of the second wife occurred in 1859. In his political belief, Mr. Jones is an old-time Republican, and has held nearly every public office in the township. He is highly respected by his fellow-citizens as an honored pioneer and public-spirited citizen.

At the time the Jones family came to Muskegon County, George W. was an infant one year old. He grew to manhood on the home farm, receiving the educational advantages afforded by the neighboring schools, and early in life gaining a thorough knowledge of agriculture. For a number of years he has had entire charge of his



RESIDENCE OF GEO. W. JONES , SEC. 35. EGGLESTON TP., MUSKEGON CO. MICH.

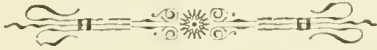


RESIDENCE OF WM. T. CARR, SEC. 20., MOORLAND TP., MUSKEGON CO., MICH.

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father's farming affairs, and has made a success of his farming operations. He was married, June 29, 1875, to Miss Mahalia, daughter of Cornelius and Mary (Strichmer) Clary, natives of Illinois. Six children have been born of this union: David R., Flora, Celia, Walter, Sara, and George Washington.



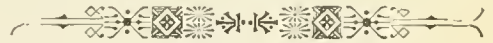
**W**ILLIAM THOMAS CARR. It has been truly said that the prosperity of a community depends upon the individual enterprise and uprightness of its citizens. In proportion as each person achieves success, will the county and State show a favorable advancement along the lines of material and commercial progress. The high standing of Muskegon County and its prominence among other counties of the State may be attributed largely to the energy and progressive spirit displayed by its residents. As one of its successful young business men and agriculturists, we present the name of William Thomas Carr, who owns and occupies a finely improved farm on section 20, Moorland Township.

Born in Sheboygan County, Wis., October 30, 1856, the subject of this notice is the son of William and Elizabeth (Plum) Carr, natives of Saratoga County, N. Y. His father at an early age removed to Milwaukee, Wis., and, being well educated, engaged in teaching school. Later he went to Sheboygan, Wis., and helped to survey and plat the town, and having secured a tract of fine land in Sheboygan County engaged in farming. In 1867 he removed to Muskegon County, Mich., remaining there until his death, September 4, 1890. He was a man of noble character, and was held in the highest esteem by his fellow-men. He left the rich legacy of an upright life, that will ever be cherished by his family, who are left on the shores of time to mourn their loss. His work done, he has gone to his reward, and, like a ripe sheaf of the harvest, he is gathered into the garner of God. He was prominent in the Masonic order. Politically

a strong Republican, he was elected to nearly every township office.

Of five children, three of whom are now living, the subject of this brief biographical notice is the youngest. He received a common-school education and availed himself to the utmost of every opportunity offered him. At the age of twenty-one he commenced life for himself, and embarked in the occupation of a farmer, to which he had been reared. Locating in Moorland Township, he commenced the cultivation of the farm on section 20 where he has since resided. His agricultural operations have been very successful, and he is numbered among the progressive and efficient agriculturists of the county. His farm embraces about one hundred and sixty acres, upon which a set of first-class rural buildings have been placed.

While the duties connected with farming occupy much of Mr. Carr's attention, he nevertheless finds sufficient time to devote to public affairs and maintains a warm interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community. In his political affiliations, he adopts the principles of the Republican party, and supports its candidates with his ballot and influence. Socially, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and takes a hearty interest in the progress of that organization. One of the leading citizens of this part of the county, he justly occupies a high place in the regard of all who know him.



**E**J. HUMPHREY, an efficient and well-known lumber inspector and shipper, located at No. 388 Western Avenue, Muskegon, Mich., has long been associated with the leading interests of the city, and is a native of the State, having been born in 1861, in Ferrysburg, Ottawa County. The father, William Humphrey, was a native of the State of New York, and was reared and educated in his birthplace, but later in life, removing to the farther West, settled in Ohio, where, arrived at mature age, he was united in marriage

with a most estimable lady of fine ability and high intelligence and the daughter of a well-known citizen. The father was a millwright by trade, and although he found profitable employment in his native State finally decided to try his fortunes in the broader fields of the farther West. With this object in view, he, together with his family, journeyed to Michigan in the pioneer days and located in Ferrysburg in 1840, when the greater portion of the State was literally a wilderness and wild game abounded. Many years later he removed to Muskegon, making the latter city his permanent home in 1861, and here engaging in the sawmill business.

E. J. Humphrey, our subject, was the eldest son and second child of his parents. Ella is the wife of J. A. Buckley. Our subject assisted his father in his youth, aiding him in running the sawmills in summer. He enjoyed the advantages of a good common-school education but early entered upon the daily routine of work. In 1881, becoming lumber inspector, Mr. Humphrey for seven years was in the employ of J. L. Murray, and then formed a partnership with J. F. Anden, the firm conducting business under the name of Humphrey & Anden. Mr. Anden one year later was drowned in Muskegon Lake, since which time our subject has engaged in business solely upon his own account. In May, 1886, Mr. Humphrey entered into buying and shipping lumber, and in this venture met with financial success. In the month of October, 1887, were united in marriage E. J. Humphrey and Miss Effie Marshall, of Muskegon, an adopted daughter of C. P. Rose. The handsome home, No. 228 West Clay Avenue, is the scene of many social gatherings, the accomplished and estimable wife of our subject being a social favorite with a large circle of old friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Humphrey is fraternally associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and is a valued member of Lovell Moore Lodge. He is likewise connected with the chapter, and is a Knight Templar. Our subject is also a Knight of Pythias and affiliates with the Maccabees, and in these various societies enjoying a wide acquaintance, has gained numerous sincere friends. While not a

politician in any sense of the word, nor desirous of public office, Mr. Humphrey is interested in local and National issues, and in all matters of mutual welfare and home improvements is ever ready to do his full share. A man of enterprise and business ability, and from his youth identified with the growth and upward progress of Muskegon, it is undoubtedly true that no man in the State is more thoroughly posted in the details of his especial line of business than he, and no man more fully understands the great lumber resources of Michigan. In the inspection of lumber he is an adept of authority and value.



**F**REDERICK A. NIMS, a lawyer of Muskegon, Muskegon County, was born in Clinton, Lenawee County, Mich., June 15, 1839. His father, the late Dr. Dwight B. Nims, was of English descent, his ancestors emigrating to this country in Colonial times. He was a son of James and Lucy (Boyden) Nims, and was born in Conway, Mass., September 12, 1808. His professional education was received at the Fairfield (N. Y.) College of Physicians and Surgeons, Western District, and at the Berkshire Medical Institute, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in June, 1833. After practicing his profession in New York State for two years, he removed to Michigan, first locating at Clinton, whence he afterward removed to Homer, Calhoun County, in which place he remained until 1864, when he changed his residence to the city of Jackson.

Dr. Nims was one of the best-read and most successful practitioners in central Michigan, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was a member of the Onondaga County (N. Y.) Medical Society; the Jackson County Medical Society, of which he was President; the Michigan State Medical Society, and from 1856 until his death, which occurred in Jackson on April 15, 1879, of the American Medical Association. He

was married September 8, 1834, to Anna A. White daughter of the late Nehemiah White, a native of Madison County, N. Y. (where Mrs. Nims was born), and who later moved to Grand Rapids and engaged in furniture manufacturing and lumbering, dying at that place in 1859. His daughter is still living, having attained the age of seventy years, and resides with her son Frederick at Muskegon.

Our subject was the eldest of three children, of whom the youngest is deceased. His sister, Mildred L., is the wife of C. P. Goodwin, of Toledo, Ohio. Up to the age of twelve years he attended the district schools of Homer, and in 1851 he commenced a preparatory course of two years at the Wesleyan Seminary, at Albion, Mich. In 1853 he entered Hobart College, at Geneva, N. Y., where he pursued a classical course until 1856, when a weakness of the eyes, brought on by a too close application to study, compelled him to return home. In the spring of 1858 he went to Grand Rapids and entered the law office of Withey & Gray. These gentlemen (now deceased) attained to positions of prominence in their profession, Mr. Withey having been subsequently appointed United States District Judge, while Mr. Gray was made General Solicitor of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at New York City. Mr. Nims studied law with them until his admission to the Bar, June 5, 1860, when he associated himself with Maj. (afterward Col.) A. T. McReynolds, and opened an office in Grand Rapids.

During the political campaign of 1860 and previous to the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, Mr. Nims served as one of the political editors of the Grand Rapids *Daily Enquirer*. On the first call for volunteers, in 1861, Maj. McReynolds was appointed Colonel of the Lincoln Cavalry, then being organized in New York, and at that time the only cavalry regiment asked for by the Government. In July, 1861, Mr. Nims was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Col. McReynolds' regiment, which he immediately joined in New York. Repairing to Washington in August, the regiment was shortly afterward brigaded with others under Brig.-Gen. Innis N. Palmer. In September, 1861, Lieut. Nims was detailed for

special service on Gen. Palmer's staff, and during his term of service in the army was engaged in the various campaigns, principally in this branch of service. During the winter of 1861-62 he was Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Commissary of Subsistence. He accompanied Gen. Palmer on his assignment to the command of a brigade of infantry in Gen. Silas Casey's division to the Peninsula in the following March, with the Army of the Potomac, under Gen. McClellan. The division was substantially wiped out at the battle of Seven Pines, May 31, 1862, Gen. Palmer being relieved of his command, and Lieut. Nims rejoined his regiment. In August following the regiment was attached to Gen. Burnside's command at Fredericksburg, which was evacuated by him, however, immediately after the second battle of Bull Run, and his forces joined the Army of the Potomac at Washington. Soon after the battle of Antietam Col. McReynolds was put in charge of a brigade of cavalry and sent to join Gen. Kelley at Cumberland, Md. Lieut. Nims was during this time on Col. McReynolds' staff as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

In the spring of 1863 the brigade occupied Martinsburg, Va., at that time an outpost of the Shenandoah Valley, and shortly thereafter Col. McReynolds, with his command, joined Gen. Milroy, then occupying Winchester, where they remained until June, when Gen. Lee's army forced them to retire into Pennsylvania. Lieut. Nims, being sick in hospital, was, with about three thousand others, taken prisoner in this engagement and was held at Winchester during Lee's advance into Pennsylvania. The battle of Gettysburg forced his retirement, and within six weeks from his capture Lieut. Nims, with two others, during the excitement of Lee's evacuation of Winchester, escaped from the hospital through the rebel lines, and remained in hiding in a Unionist's house until the Union army coming up, they were once more at liberty. On going to Winchester, Lieut. Nims had been assigned to the staff of Gen. Elliot, whom, he found, had during his imprisonment been transferred to the Army of the Potomac, so he rejoined his regiment at Martinsburg. In July, 1863, he was appointed aide-de-camp on the staff

of Gen. J. C. Sullivan, who was then in command of Harper's Ferry, where he remained until the following spring. Early in 1864 he accompanied an expeditionary force of about twenty thousand men under Gen. Sigel up the Shenandoah Valley, the movement having for its ultimate object the capture of Lynchburg. At the battle of Newmarket they were defeated, Gen. Sigel was relieved, and Gen. David Hunter was placed in command. Continuing Southward, they defeated Gen. Jones at Piedmont; thence passing through Lexington and Buchanan they crossed the mountains at a point called "Peaks of Otter," only to meet with defeat when nearing their goal. Being closely pursued by the rebels, they crossed the mountains of West Virginia, and after five days and nights of forced marching without rest they halted near Charleston, W. Va. The fatigue and exposure experienced at this time resulted in sickness, and Lieut. Nims returned to Michigan on leave of absence for one month. Returning in August, he remained on Gen. Sullivan's staff until October, 1864, when he was mustered out of service at Martinsburg, Va.

The following year our subject spent in recuperating his health at Grand Rapids, and in November, 1865, he removed to Muskegon. Resuming the practice of his profession, he continued alone until 1867, when he formed a partnership with Francis Smith and George Gray, of Grand Rapids. Mr. Gray retired from the firm in 1869, and in 1870 D. D. Erwin was admitted to the firm, which was then known as Smith, Nims & Erwin. In 1874 H. J. Hoyt became a partner, when the name of Smith, Nims, Hoyt & Erwin was adopted, and the firm still remains as then constituted. This sketch would be incomplete without a reference to the railroad interests of Muskegon, with the promotion of which Mr. Nims has had much to do, and it is largely to his efforts that the different roads, with their different interests, owe their existence in the first place, and in the second their final amalgamation under one management. We refer particularly to those lines now controlled by the Chicago & West Michigan Railway Company, the information being furnished by a gentleman who has been interested with Mr. Nims in

all of the enterprises referred to, and has known him intimately since his first coming to Muskegon.

Mr. Nims was one of the incorporators in 1868 of the Muskegon & Ferrysburg Railroad Company, of which he was made Secretary and Attorney, while the President was L. G. Mason, of Muskegon, with whom, conjointly with our subject, the project originated; and, while this road covered only a distance of fifteen miles, its construction resulted in forcing the building and extension of other lines, so that, while it was the pioneer of Muskegon railroads, it might be called the father of the city's present admirable railway system. In 1870 it was consolidated with the Grand Haven & Holland and the Holland & Allegan Railroads, the consolidated roads adopting the name of the Michigan Lake Shore Railroad Company, Mr. Nims being made Attorney for the company. Subsequently these roads became a part of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad system by right of purchase. In December, 1871, the Muskegon & Big Rapids Railroad Company was organized, L. G. Mason being President, and Mr. Nims its Secretary and Attorney, both being among its incorporators. Soon thereafter this road was consolidated with the Chicago & Michigan Lake Shore Railroad, which had just completed a line from New Buffalo to Muskegon, and Mr. Nims was appointed Attorney of the consolidated lines. These roads, with others, as shown above, finally came under the control of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad Company, in 1871, and Mr. Nims then received the appointment of Attorney for that company, which position he has ever since filled. Mr. Nims has also encouraged and promoted, by financial assistance and otherwise, the construction of other railroads more recently completed to Muskegon.

Mr. Nims was for a number of years a member of the Board of Directors of the Muskegon National Bank, and was one of the incorporators, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Merchants' National Bank of Muskegon, and held the same office in the Monroe Manufacturing Company, of Muskegon. He is also President of the Muskegon Street Railroad Company, and has numerous other interests in enter-

prises looking to the growth of the city—among others the Electric Light Company. He was first elected in 1876 a member of the Board of Education of Muskegon, on which he has served continuously since that time, having been re-elected to that office for the sixth term in 1891. He was President of the Board continuously from the spring of 1883 to 1891. Mr. Nims has been connected with the Masonic fraternity for the last twenty-eight years, and was in 1888 Worshipful Master of Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M. He has also been admitted to the chapter and commandery, and is a member of the Loyal Legion of the Grand Army of the Republic, and of the Knights of Pythias organizations. He takes an active interest in temperance work, and is a member of the various bodies having for their object the promotion of temperance.

Mr. Nims was married February 20, 1862, to Miss Mary, daughter of Col. A. T. McReynolds, by whom he had two children, both of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Nims died in 1872. May 27, 1873, he was united in marriage with Ellen, sister of his first wife. They have seven children, as follows: Elizabeth M., born August 1, 1874; Frederick D., March 27, 1877; Frank N. R., April 11, 1879; Charles B., July 30, 1881; Leslie W., May 18, 1883; David E., June 18, 1887; and Louis Morgan, June 18, 1889.



**A**RA B. BRITTIN, a retired engineer, who worked at his trade in Muskegon, Mich., is a native of New York, and passed the days of childhood in his birthplace and received his primary instruction in the public schools of the Empire State. His father, Stephen M. Brittin, a native and long-time resident of New York, removed with his family to Ohio and located on a farm, where he industriously entered into the pursuit of agriculture. Ara B., who was only eight years of age when his parents settled in the

Buckeye State, there completed his studies in the excellent schools of the home neighborhood, and assisted his father in the daily round of work upon the farm. Trained to habits of self-reliant thrift, our subject early determined to try his fortunes in the farther West, and, having attained to mature age, journeyed to the State of Michigan.

In 1850, arrived within the Wolverine State, Mr. Brittin made his home in Muskegon, and was variously employed for a number of years. The Brittin ancestors were residents of Wales, and the sturdy characteristics of that nation bequeathed to their descendants insured them success in every vocation of life. The mother, like her husband, was a native of the Empire State, and was in maidenhood Haite Corve, the daughter of old and highly respected citizens of New York.

In 1855 Ara B. Brittin and Miss Maria Vincee were united in marriage. The wedding took place in Muskegon, but the estimable wife of our subject, a lady of native ability and high intelligence, is a native of Ohio, and was educated in the near vicinity of her early home. Two children with their cheerful presence blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brittin. The son and daughter received the best educational advantages the parents could give them. Mattie was the eldest-born; Jay S., a native of North Muskegon, and born on the 4th of October, 1859, is a young man of promise and excellent business ability. He has passed his entire life in Muskegon, and received a practical education in the public schools of the city of his birth. A silversmith by trade, he is now prosperously engaged in the jewelry business.

Our subject, having after years of continued application to business retired from active duties, now enjoys a well-earned rest. He is fraternally connected with Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F., and, politically a stalwart Republican, has been a local leader of the party. Elected to the judicial office of Justice of the Peace, Mr. Brittin discharged the duties of the position with able fidelity five years, and gave great satisfaction to his fellow-citizens, his decisions, rendered in accord with law and evidence, seldom being carried to a higher court. In the home at No. 198 Mus-

kegon Avenue, our subject and his worthy wife, enjoying the competence gained by years of industrious effort, receive many friends and well-wishers, and command the esteem of a wide acquaintance.



**J**AMES BALBIRNIE. There is no branch of industry in which such rapid progress and improvement have been made in recent years as in the production of artistic household furniture. Mr. Balbirnie, who is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Muskegon, Mich., is one of the foremost and successful business men of the city. The latter business is of the utmost importance to society, and every consideration suggests that its representatives shall be reliable, sympathetic and experienced. Mr. Balbirnie has all these qualities. He is a native of Canada, born in Ontario April 21, 1838, and is the eldest son of James and Jane (Linch) Balbirnie. James Balbirnie was also born in Canada, and followed hotel-keeping there for many years. In that country he met and married Miss Linch and subsequently moved to Michigan, locating in the city of Muskegon, where his death occurred in 1866. His wife survived until 1885.

The boyhood of our subject was passed in his native country, and his primary education was received in the common schools of the same. Later he attended school at Ottawa, Canada, and after attaining his majority he settled in Ottawa, where he embarked in the undertaking business. This he continued up to 1865, when he removed to Muskegon, Mich., and continued the undertaking business up to 1869. At that date he added a stock of furniture, and since has increased his business and added furniture from the best manufacturers, until now he has one of the best-equipped establishments in the place. He has furnished over seven thousand caskets for persons in the city and in Ottawa and Muskegon Counties, and has secured a liberal and influential patronage

by honestly deserving it. He is well known and popular as an undertaker as well as a dealer in furniture.

Our subject selected his wife in the person of Miss Ella Watson, of Ottawa, Canada, daughter of William Watson, and their union was celebrated in 1861. Three children have been born to this union: Ellen Theressa, James and Lillian Maude, the latter at home. In politics, Mr. Balbirnie is a Republican. He was the first Supervisor of his ward and was a member of the Board in 1892. In 1893 he was a prominent candidate for Mayor, but withdrew in favor of Mr. Torrens. In Masonry he is very prominent and is a Knight Templar. He is also a member of the Mystic Shrine, and Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F. Mr. Balbirnie is a fine conversationalist and a good specimen of physical manhood. He is sociable and genial and has a host of warm friends in the county. He has ever been active in politics, especially in county politics, and takes much interest in the election of his friends. His home and surroundings are all that could be desired.



**T**IMOTHY B. CALLAN, the enterprising and popular senior partner in the leading firm of Callan & Dratz, dealers in clothing and gents' furnishing goods, Muskegon, Mich., has been a well-known resident of his present locality for the past quarter of a century, and, a man of fine business attainments, has prosperously aided in the conduct of a trade which is now one of the best in its line in the State, and, carrying a complete stock of goods, competes successfully with the houses of the larger and older cities. Our subject, born in County Cork, Ireland, May 12, 1845, was the son of Timothy and Jane (Broadrick) Callan. The father was by occupation a farmer and patiently tilled the soil of the Old Country. Our subject, trained to habits of industrious thrift, assisted his father in the work of the farm and in his childhood attended the common

schools of his native land. At twelve years of age he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a tailor, and gave a number of years to acquire the details of the clothier's art. As he neared manhood Mr. Callan determined he would follow the tide of emigration, and in common with the sons of his parents' friends and neighbors seek his fortune in America.

Before he had yet attained his majority our subject, in 1865, embarked for the United States and having made a safe voyage landed in New York City, in which metropolis he remained for about two months. Mr. Callan, who decided to prospect for a time before locating permanently, next journeyed to Boston, Mass., and finding ready employment in that city continued there two and a-half years. At the expiration of this length of time our subject traveled to the farther West and visited Chicago, Ill., and then went to Aurora, Ill., where he spent the following four months. He afterward made a trip to Milwaukee and finally, in the year 1868, came to Muskegon, where he engaged as a cutter with William H. Herbst. After some time Mr. Callan entered into partnership with Mr. Herbst, the business being conducted under the firm name of William Herbst & Co. This business arrangement profitably endured until 1877, when the partnership was dissolved, our subject soon afterward connecting himself with John A. Dratz, also a practical tailor and fine cutter, whose work is well known for its style and finish. The firm of Callan & Dratz enjoys an extensive custom and aside from a fine city trade has a large patronage from the surrounding country.

In 1877 were united in marriage Timothy Callan and Miss Maggie Hall, a well-known young lady of Muskegon and a general favorite with a large circle of young people. The estimable wife of our subject is the daughter of John Hall, a highly respected citizen. The pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Callan at No. 44 Peck Street has been brightened by the birth of three merry and intelligent children, two sons and a daughter: Charles, Frank and Emma. These young people will be given every opportunity to worthily fit themselves to occupy with honor any position of trust to which they may be called in the future.

Politically an Independent, Mr. Callan casts his vote for the best man, and without any aspirations for office does his duty as a loyal citizen, ever ready to lend a helping hand in all matters of public welfare.



**H**IRAM HUNTER, a successful agriculturist of Moorland Township, Muskegon County, was born in Brownville, Jefferson County, N. Y., June 10, 1835, and is the son of Silas O. and Sallie (Smedley) Hunter, natives of Massachusetts. His father was a sailor and went before the mast at the age of sixteen. Two years later he was made master of the vessel on which he was sailing, and from that time up to the age of forty-five he occupied a commanding position among the mariners of Lake Ontario. Selling out his shipping interests at the age above mentioned, he moved to Ottawa County, Mich., where he was actively engaged in farming during the remainder of his life. His death, at the age of eighty-one, was caused by falling from a verandah while in the city of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Longevity is a prominent characteristic of the Hunter family, whose members possessed very rugged constitutions and usually attained to advanced years, although some of them met with violent deaths in their prime. Of seven children, our subject is the next to the eldest. He received a thoroughly practical business training at an early age from his father, who took great pains to instruct his children in the best business methods. He entrusted them with many of his personal affairs, thereby giving them the advantage of practical experience.

Continuing at home until the age of twenty-five years, the subject of this sketch then engaged in the lumber business in northern Michigan, contracting, jobbing and also superintending for others. He followed this business very successfully for many years. In 1890 he located in Moorland Township, Muskegon County, where he engages

extensively in farming and also devotes considerable attention to stock-raising. He is an extensive grower of mint and onions, for which he finds a ready sale at fair prices. His farm embraces about seven hundred acres, and its thorough state of cultivation shows the same energy and attention which are characteristic of Mr. Hunter's every enterprise.

Mr. Hunter has been twice married. His first union was with Matilda J. Snyder, and by her he had four children. Louis, the eldest, was killed at the age of twenty-five, at Lucas, Mich., in a railway accident; the others are: William, who resides in Muskegon; Edward, who is engaged in the mercantile business at Iron River, Mich.; and Georgia, who is at home with her father. The second marriage of Mr. Hunter united him with Mrs. Mary Thompson, who was born in New York. Although the management of his farm requires his constant attention, yet this activity does not seem to exhaust his energy. He affiliates with the Republican party and is greatly interested in the general welfare of the community, of which he is an enterprising and popular citizen.



**H**ENRY A. WOLFF, a manufacturer of pianos and piano stools at Muskegon, and one of the most progressive business men of this city, was born in Franklin County, N. Y., on the 22d of August, 1851. He is a son of Parrit B. and Jane P. (Cassen) Wolff, natives respectively of New York State and England, the latter being of English-Scotch extraction. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John C. Wolff, was born in the parish of Badendorf, by Wisner, Germany, February 7, 1798, and the lady whom he married was also born in 1798, on the 17th of October, in Orange, Mass.

Parrit B. Wolff was born in Ft. Covington, Franklin County, N. Y., June 4, 1826, and in his youth learned the trade of a tailor. For a time he was in the employ of the Government, and

afterward served as Captain of the Ninety-eighth New York Infantry. His death occurred at Washington, D. C., in January, 1891. His wife, whose birth occurred March 16, 1828, passed from earth at Malone, Franklin County, N. Y., on the 12th of February, 1881. Henry A. is the second in a family of five children, two of whom are now living, himself and brother, William A., a prominent attorney of New York City, and a member of the legal firm of Wolff & Hodge, of London, England.

The subject of this biographical notice passed the days of his childhood in the village of Ft. Covington, N. Y., and the town of Malone, in the same State. His school advantages were limited, and at an early age he commenced to work for the Ogdensburg & Lake Champlain Railroad, being in the employ of that railway company first as brakeman, and later as baggage master. Leaving the employ of the railway company, he learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed for four years. Afterward, at Malone, he learned the trade of a machinist, and was thus engaged for a period of five years. He then became an engineer on the Ogdensburg & Lake Champlain Railroad, in which capacity he served for twelve months, and later was in the employ of the railway company in Vermont.

May, 1875, witnessed the arrival of Mr. Wolff in Muskegon, where he entered the employ of Fred Vander Werp, dealer in pianos, organs and sewing-machines. In November of 1875 he embarked in business with E. H. Waller, under the name of Waller & Wolff, continuing in that connection for one year, when he disposed of his interest to L. O. Beerman. He afterward started in business alone, and upon an extensive scale, dealing in pianos, organs, musical instruments and sheet music at No. 113 West Western Avenue. In 1890 he became a stockholder and Director in the Nelson Piano Works, at Muskegon, being one of the principal organizers and incorporators of that company.

During the year 1891, Mr. Wolff organized the Wolff Piano Stool Company, of which he is the principal stockholder and the present General Manager. Later, he became Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager of the Nelson Piano Com-



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Geo. P. Ammer

pany, manufacturers of pianos and piano cases, and having purchased a large portion of the stock of this concern he is now one of its principal owners. He gives his time and attention with the closest fidelity to the details of his business, and to his progressive spirit and enterprise may be attributed the large measure of success which he has attained as one of Muskegon's foremost business men. Although he has little time for participating in the details of public affairs, he nevertheless is warmly interested in every measure having for its object the promotion of the best interests of this community, and is a warm adherent of Republican principles. Mr. Wolff was united in marriage to Miss Ida R. Bassett, who was born in Malone, Franklin County, N. Y.



**G**EORGE P. HUMMER. The development of furniture manufacture in the United States possesses the utmost interest for students of industrial history. The large furniture factory has long since superseded the cabinet-maker, and a prominent concern of the kind is that of the West Michigan Furniture Company, of Holland, of which George P. Hummer is the efficient General Manager. At the same time he discharges the responsible duties of Mayor of the city. He was born at Belvidere, N. J., December 25, 1856, and is a son of Peter Snyder, of that State. When he was six months old, he was adopted into the family of George Hummer, and when quite young he went to live near Grand Rapids, Mich., in the public schools of which he received his education, finishing in the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., from which he was graduated.

In 1882 Mr. Hummer accepted the position of Superintendent of Schools at Holland, Mich., and during the seven years in which he served in that capacity he greatly improved the schools in various ways, his rule being wise and firm, yet always

reasonable and kind. At the end of the above-mentioned time he resigned, to organize the West Michigan Furniture Company, of which he was at once elected Secretary and Manager, and this position he has filled with eminent ability ever since, showing in its management the same intelligence that marked his career as an educator.

The West Michigan Furniture Company was organized with a capital stock of \$100,000, and the business has had an immense growth, for they now do \$500,000 worth of business annually, and give constant employment to about three hundred and fifty men. Like many other furniture manufactories, they make a specialty of a certain kind of furniture, theirs being chamber sets, and it must be acknowledged that they turn out some extremely handsome and substantial articles. Fred J. Metz is the President of the company, and, like Mr. Hummer, is a practical man of affairs, and an influential citizen. The business done has been highly satisfactory to these gentlemen, and is a credit and a great benefit to the town. Their goods sell at the most reasonable figures, and have become widely known throughout the country. The officers of the company are gentlemen of high character, and are very prominent in the business circles of Holland. The business has established a reputation, not only for manufacturing and carrying first-class goods, but also for fair dealing in all things. The advantages enjoyed in manufacturing enable the house to offer goods at prices greatly advantageous to buyers, and the success of the concern has been largely brought about by the unbounded energy and push of Mr. Hummer.

In 1885 Mr. Hummer was united in marriage with Miss Marguerite, daughter of Albert Plugger, a native of Holland, and an early emigrant to Ottawa County, Mich. He was a prosperous citizen, and the owner of a large flouring-mill in this county, which he operated for a number of years, and, being enterprising and industrious, he became wealthy. To George P. Hummer and his wife three children have been born: Hilda, Marguerite and Kate. Politically, Mr. Hummer has always supported the Democratic party, and on several occasions has been a member of the Democratic State

Central Committee, and usually goes as a delegate to the State Conventions. He has always been active in the affairs of the county, and especially of Holland. He is one of the stockholders of the First State Bank and is also a stockholder and a Director of the Chicago & Holland Transportation Company.



**J**OHAN R. KLEYN. Among the many industries of the thriving city of Holland, that of the Novelty Wood Works has gained a prominent footing, and within the last few years has assumed gigantic proportions. John R. Kleyn, the original of this notice, and the sole owner and proprietor of this growing business, has gained for his establishment a most enviable reputation for the artistic beauty and general excellence of its work, as well as for the prompt and reliable manner in which all work intrusted to it is executed. Active and enterprising, painstaking in all his undertakings, and liberal in his methods of dealing with the public, he has greatly and steadily extended the field of his operations.

Mr. Kleyn was born in the Netherlands, February 21, 1811, and his father, Leander Kleyn, was also a native of Holland. The elder Mr. Kleyn was a builder by trade, and superintendent of the Government works at three different places. He was married in his native country to Miss Heiltje Wilhelmina Korteweg, and in 1851 brought his family to America. He came direct to Holland, Mich., where he engaged in building and contracting, being among the pioneers of the place. Only a few years later, in 1857, he passed to that bourne from which no traveler returns. His marriage resulted in the birth of five children, four of whom are living at the present time, and in the order of their births as follows: John R.; Johanna, who is married, and resides in North Carolina; Jane, deceased; Robert, a resident of Holland, Mich.; and Martin. The father of these children served

six years in the army in his native country; he was at the battle of Antwerp, and later wore the Maltese cross of honor. He held membership in the Reformed Church, and was a prominent man in religious circles.

The original of this notice was about thirteen years of age when he came to this country, and received the principal part of his education before crossing the ocean. When sixteen years of age he started out to learn the carpenter's trade, but two years previous to that had received some instruction in that trade from his father. He also learned architecture, the most of it out of books, for he has ever been a great student, and became unusually proficient in that. In 1878 he engaged in the hardware business, followed this for four years with good success, and then established the Novelty Wood Works, which he has conducted up to the present. He employs fifteen men right along, but has employed as many as forty or fifty at a time.

Mr. Kleyn manufactures all kinds of building material, and has a great deal of work on large contracts for New York. The building in which he does business is a handsome and substantial structure, the main part being 50x100 feet. Our subject started out for himself with a great amount of pluck and energy, but little else, and is a self-made man in every sense of the term. Being the eldest of five children, when his father died the support of the family fell on his shoulders. He struggled along for years under hardships that would have discouraged a less determined or positive character, and is now one of the prominent and successful business men of the city of Holland. His mother died in 1879. Politically, Mr. Kleyn is an independent Republican, and has advocated the principles of that party since the Rebellion. For two years he was Alderman of the city, Assessor for about six years, and has held other positions, although he has never been an office-seeker.

In the year 1861 he was married to Miss Dirkje Johanna Waling, the daughter of Simon Waling, who was born in the Netherland, and came to America at an early date. Mr. and Mrs. Kleyn had born to their union nine children. Leonard is engaged in the lumber business with his father,

and is foreman of the latter's yard; Lemcr makes his home in Holland; Minnie, wife of Alfred Wright, resides in Chicago; Henry resides at Sidney, Neb.; George is at home, as is also Josephine, who has just graduated from the High School; and Anna, Fred, Simon and Maude are all at home.

Mr. Kleyn is a member of the Reformed Church, and a man who has won a high place in the opinion of all acquainted with him. He is a stockholder in the Cappon-Bertsch Leather Company, and is a wide-awake, thorough-going business man.

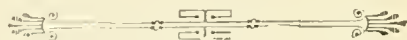


**A**LFRID HUNTLEY is a prominent engineer and machinist of the city of Holland, Mich., and is also manager of the Wolverine Electric Light Company of that city. He is a native of Kent, England, and the son of George and Harriet Huntley, who owe their nativity to that country also. The youthful days of our subject were passed in England, and he there secured a good practical education. When fifteen years of age he began serving an apprenticeship at the machinist trade in London, England, and was thus engaged until twenty-one years of age. After this he began working at his trade in London as a journeyman, and, being a thorough master of his business, seldom lacked work.

The principal event of our subject's life occurred in 1871, when he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Hobson, a native of England, as was also her father, Robert Hobson, who was born in Yorkshire. Mr. Hobson was a successful farmer there, and became quite wealthy. Two days after his marriage, our subject and his wife sailed for America, and reached the United States after an uneventful voyage. They settled in Holland, Mich., and Mr. Huntley was engaged as an engineer in the Metz Leather Company's tannery, and remained there two or three years. He then removed to Muskegon and became foreman in the shops of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad, which position he filled in a satisfactory manner

for three years. Seeing a better opening for himself, he came to Holland, Mich., opened a machine-shop, and has engaged in this business up to the present time. He does general repairing in all kinds of machinery, and has five engines on the Mississippi River. He repairs all kinds of machines and stationary engines, and has just repaired a large engine of two hundred horse power. He has all the work he wants, for he is a first-class workman. Huntley & Holly organized the first electric light company, known as the Huntley & Holly Electric Light Company, which, however, only lasted one year. Later they organized the Wolverine Electric Light Company.

Mr. Huntley is a practical electric light engineer and manager for the company. He is a very expert machinist and engineer, possesses splendid executive business ability, and is most reliable, being highly esteemed in the county. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, which he supplies with electric light. Mrs. Huntley is also a member of that church, and a consistent, worthy Christian. Their union has been blessed by the birth of seven children, all now at home. Mr. Huntley is a strict business man, but is public-spirited and enterprising to a great degree. In politics, he is a Democrat, and socially he is a member of the order of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and has filled all the positions in his lodge except that of Treasurer. He is Past Master, and takes a great deal of interest in his lodge.



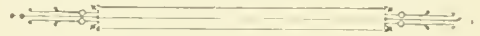
**H**ENRY BLOECKER. Human industry has afforded many striking examples, and among the prominent men of Grand Haven, Mich., who have exhibited those sterling principles of character which lead on to great accomplishments, Henry Bloecker affords a striking illustration. He is now the Mayor of Grand Haven, and is a man whose upright, capable and honorable career has won a place in the annals of Ottawa County. In him is won-

derfully exemplified the rare abilities and great powers of application which have rendered him one of the most distinguished representatives of Grand Haven's advanced and prosperous industries. He was born in Germany, September 6, 1845, and inherits all the thrift, enterprise and perseverance of his Teutonic ancestors. His father, Mark Bloecker, was a German soldier for many years.

Our subject was educated in his native country, and learned the trade of a machinist, following his trade as a journeyman and traveling to many of the principal cities of Germany and France. In 1867 he took passage for the United States, and after an uneventful voyage landed in New York City. From that place he came direct to Grand Haven, Mich., and soon found employment in the Ferris Ottawa Iron Works, remaining with the same until 1879, when he formed a partnership with John Bryce, under the firm name of Bryce & Bloecker, in the manufacturing of general marine engines and all kinds of machinery belonging to tugs, steamers, and, in short, all vessels using steam. This firm continued until the year 1881, when their plant burned and they sustained heavy loss. Later, they re-organized, under the firm name of Bryce, Bloecker & Co., and re-built the works on the old site, enlarged them considerably, and put in new and highly improved machinery. This business was continued under the above-mentioned title until 1883, when it was changed to Bloecker & Co., and still later to Henry Bloecker & Co., which is the title at the present time. The firm has the best of shipping facilities, and during the busy season from thirty to forty men are employed.

The happy domestic life of our subject began in the year 1868, when he was married to Miss Mary Glazat, a native of Germany, but at the time of her marriage a resident of Grand Haven, whither she had moved with her father. To Mr. and Mrs. Bloecker were born nine children, eight sons and one daughter; those living are as follows: Ingo, Paul, Fred, Robert, Emma, Ernest and Henry. Those deceased are Erdmann and one unnamed. Mr. Bloecker is alive to matters of public importance, and is deeply interested in the

success of the Democratic party, with which he has long been identified. He served four years as Alderman of the First Ward, and in April, 1893, he was elected Mayor of Grand Haven. He is President of the National Dotare Association and German Workingmen's Society, and is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of Grand Haven Lodge No. 139, and Grand Haven Chapter No. 81. He is also a member of the Maccabees and is one of the leading Germans of Grand Haven.



CLARENCE A. CHASE, manager and superintendent of the Chase Brothers Piano Company, and one of Muskegon's most influential and successful business men, is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in Columbus, February 12, 1853. He is the son of Milo J. and Olive (Stacy) Chase, natives of New England. The father, who was a man of genius and high executive ability, embarked in business as a manufacturer of pianos at Ripley, Ohio, many years ago, at a time when only the wealthy could afford the luxury of an instrument. Through the exercise of good judgment he attained success, and by keeping in the lead with improved methods he was enabled to furnish superior pianos at competition prices, so that his name became a familiar word in almost every household in the land.

In his father's home in Ripley, Ohio, the subject of this notice grew to a sturdy manhood, well fitted by natural endowments and judicious training for a position of prominence in the business world. At the age of fifteen years his school days were ended and his active business career commenced. He entered his father's piano factory, where he gained a practical knowledge of the details of the business. At the time of the removal of the manufactory to Richmond, Ind., in 1877, he went thither, and in 1881 located in Grand Rapids, Mich., where the business was conducted for a number of years.

In order to secure a more available site for the location of the principal manufactory, the concern was removed to Muskegon, Mich., in 1889, and the wisdom of this change has been demonstrated by the history of the ensuing years. The present company was organized in October, 1889, with a capital stock of \$225,000. The factory, completed in July, 1890, is 60x250 feet in dimensions, four stories in height, and thoroughly equipped with modern machinery, which is operated by a two hundred horse power Corliss engine. Three Nichols dry-kilns, with a capacity for seasoning ten thousand feet of lumber every thirty-six hours, and all other necessary adjuncts for rapid and perfect work are found. The company has convenient docks and warehouse adjoining the plant, for shipments by water, and railroad tracks alongside the factory, giving every facility for receiving lumber and prompt consignment of finished pianos.

Upright and grand pianos are made in all the popular shades of mahogany, walnut, oak and rosewood, finished in a superb manner, as every attention is given to produce a perfect instrument. The Chase factory was among the first establishments to meet the demand for upright pianos, and the proprietors have displayed much skill in surmounting musical difficulties and purifying tone qualities. The Chase brothers have been connected with the business from boyhood, and are experts in their specialties, many of the devices here being the inventions of members of the company. Clarence A., our subject, superintends the mechanical operations, Braton S. and Leon E. are traveling salesmen for the company. The immense salesrooms of this company in Chicago are superintended by the senior Mr. Chase, who is President of the corporation; C. T. Hills is Vice-President, Thomas Hume Treasurer, and L. E. Chase Secretary. On the pay-rolls are the names of more than two hundred artisans skilled in their special lines. The Chase brothers have platted one hundred and eight acres in the vicinity of the factory, which is being rapidly taken by employes and others for residence sites. The wareroom at No. 87 West Western Avenue has a choice selection of pianos, and seven hundred or more com-

pleted instruments are kept in stock at the factory and different warerooms.

One of the most beautiful and elegant residences of Muskegon is that which is owned and occupied by our subject. It is pleasantly located on Lake Street, amid attractive surroundings. The lady who presides over this spacious home was formerly Miss Olive Armstrong, and prior to her marriage, in 1874, resided in Ripley, Ohio, where her father, William Armstrong, was a prominent merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Chase are the parents of two children, Lenora A. and Irene E. Both are accomplished young ladies, and are popular in the social circles of the city.



**W**ILLIAM FARR, Treasurer of Grand Haven Township, School Inspector and a representative general agriculturist of Ottawa County, Mich., is a long-time resident of the State, but, a native of Merrie England, was born under British rule in the year 1834. Our subject is the son of Charles Farr, who, leaving his native land emigrated to America in 1848, and, locating in the Empire State, made his permanent home in Oswego, there residing for over two-score years, passing peacefully away in 1889. The father was a successful farmer and was about forty-one years of age when, bidding farewell to the scenes of his childhood, he sailed for the United States. In England he had managed three different stage routes and was a man of more than ordinary business ability. Our subject received his education and early business training in the Old Country, and at the age of thirteen apprenticed to the firm of Austin & Son learned the trade of casting and wire-drawing jewelry, stamping and refining. He attended the free schools of England and well improved his opportunities of instruction. The home of his youth was in the city of Birmingham, Warwickshire.

Mr. Farr had not long attained his majority when he decided to follow his father to America, and in 1855 crossed the broad Atlantic to the land of promise beyond the sea. Arriving in New York, our subject soon rejoined his father, from whom he had been separated by an absence of seven years. William Farr remained in Oswego County for a twelvemonth, and then journeyed to Canada, which he made his home for the five succeeding years. While a dweller in Canada our subject learned and engaged in the cooper's trade and some length of time was profitably devoted to coopering. In the Dominion of Canada Mr. Farr met and married Miss Frances Maria Long, the two being united in marriage in 1859. The estimable wife of our subject was a native of Canada, her parents being of English birth. The seven sons and daughters who blessed the happy home were Addie C., the eldest, who married John H. Shire; Charles Frederick, deceased; William, deceased; Herbert Reed; Nellie, deceased; Walter and Bruce. In 1882 Mr. Farr removed to the United States and, journeying to Michigan, located in Ottawa County, settling at once upon his present valuable homestead, then wild timberland.

Of the one hundred and forty acres, one hundred are under cultivation, yielding bounteous harvests of grain and fruit. In addition to farming here in Michigan, our subject also engaged on his own farm in the cooper business, profitably conducting the same for over four years. Vitally interested in educational advancement, Mr. Farr has as a School Director for ten years materially aided in the upward progress of the district schools of his home locality, and for four years Township Treasurer has discharged the duties of the office to the great satisfaction of the general public. Mr. and Mrs. Farr are both devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are active aids in benevolent enterprises and religious work. Politically a Republican ever since making his residence in Michigan, our subject is deeply interested in both the local and national management of the great trusts involved, and, thoroughly appreciating a Republican form of government, is in the highest sense of the term a loyal and public-spirited citizen.

**E** G. CROSBY, an energetic and prosperous citizen of Muskegon, Mich., senior partner of the well-known firm of E. G. Crosby & Co., Government contractors and builders of piers and dry docks and owners of the best tug and scow line of Lake Michigan, has been a resident of the Wolverine State from boyhood. Our subject is a native of Ontario, N. Y., and was born in 1842. His father, Warren Crosby, a native of New England, born in Massachusetts, emigrated to the West, and died in Michigan. His mother, Louisa (Lincoln) Crosby, was the descendant of an intelligent and patriotic ancestry. The Crosbys, of Scotch origin, were represented in America in a very early day and were numbered among the substantial and enterprising citizens of New England when this country was yet in its infancy. Passing his boyhood days in Ontario County, N. Y., Mr. Crosby also pursued a course of study in Lima College, for two years enjoying the benefits of instruction in that excellent institution. In 1866, removing to the West, our subject settled in Lenawee County, Mich., and remained there until the breaking out of the Civil War.

In 1861, the name of E. G. Crosby was enrolled as enlisting in Company E, First Michigan Cavalry, which, commanded by Col. Broadhead, was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. With courage our subject participated in the decisive battles of the campaign, fighting in the engagements of the Wilderness, second battle of Bull Run, Antietam, Gettysburg, and many other fights and skirmishes. Mustered out in 1864, he re-enlisted in the spring of 1865 in Hancock's corps of old veterans, commanded by Col. Hancock, and was again mustered out in the summer of 1865. Immediately after the close of the war Mr. Crosby went to Hudson, Mich., where until 1869 he was variously engaged. At the latter date he removed to Whitehall, Mich., and after a stay of two years permanently located in Muskegon. In 1881, our subject embarked in the tug business and later, adding scows, found his investment an assured success. In his work as a contractor he has dealt mainly with the Government, constructing a large amount of public piers and dockage. He is now building the Government Pier at the entrance of



Muskegon Harbor. Mr. Crosby regularly employs about seventy men and does an extensive business, yielding him annually a handsome income.

Politically a Republican and well posted in local and national affairs, he is an ardent advocate of the "Party of Reform." He is, fraternally, a member of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R., and much enjoys the re-unions of the order. Mr. Crosby married in early life Miss Catherine Halstead, a native of the East and born in the State of New York. Our subject and his worthy wife have been blessed with one son and one daughter, Fred and Hattie. The pleasant family residence, located at No. 74 Ransom Street, Muskegon, is well known to a large circle of old-time friends, Mr. and Mrs. Crosby both actively sharing in the good work and benevolent enterprises of their home city, where they receive universal respect and sincere regard. Our subject has self-reliantly won his upward way to financial prosperity, and is now numbered among the leading business men of Muskegon County who have by untiring efforts gained a competence within the borders of the Wolverine State.



**C**HARLES L. GUNN, an influential real-estate dealer residing in North Muskegon, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., January 22, 1843. The family of which he is an honored member was first represented in America about 1600, at which time several of that name emigrated from Scotland and made settlement in Massachusetts. The father of our subject, Leander W., and his grandfather were both natives of New York, the former having been born in Warren County, where he became an extensive lumberman and miller.

The mother of our subject was in maidenhood Keziah B. Payne, and was a native of Washington County, N. Y., where her father, John Payne, followed agricultural pursuits. Charles L. was the second in order of birth among four children, and

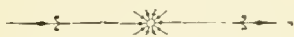
was reared in Jefferson County, N. Y., gaining the rudiments of his education in the schools of Dexter, and afterward, through self-culture and observation, broadening his knowledge. When the dark cloud of war hovered over our nation, his sympathies were strongly enlisted on behalf of the Union, and when ay outh of nineteen, in 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company I, Tenth New York Heavy Artillery. For gallant and meritorious conduct he was promoted from the ranks to the position of Lieutenant, and served in that capacity until the close of the war, participating in many of the most important battles of the Rebellion. He received his discharge at Sackett's Harbor, and was mustered out of the service at Petersburg, N. Y.

Returning to Dexter, Mr. Gunn embarked in the general mercantile business and conducted a flourishing trade for two years. He then disposed of the stock and came to Michigan, remaining for a time in St. Joseph and Benton Harbor, in the employ of C. Colby & Co., manufacturers of fruit packages. After three years thus spent, he entered the employ of A. H. Morrison, General Manager of the Chicago & West Michigan Railway Company. In 1873 he became a clerk in the general office of this company, where he was later promoted to the position of Assistant Treasurer and Paymaster. He remained for seventeen years, or until 1890, in their employ and was one of their most trusted officials.

In 1890 Mr. Gunn came to Muskegon and engaged in the real-estate business. During the following year he located in North Muskegon, and has since made his home in this city. He has extensive real-estate interests both here and in Muskegon, and is also the owner of a farm in Muskegon Township. He has a pleasant residence in North Muskegon, where he and his accomplished wife live in happiness and contentment. Mrs. Gunn became the wife of our subject on the 27th of May, 1891, prior to which time she was Mrs. Hannah Gostage. She was the daughter of William and May Conklin, and the widow of Silas Gostage.

A Democrat in politics, Mr. Gunn was elected Mayor of North Muskegon in 1892, and served

for one term. He has officiated as Alderman both in Muskegon and North Muskegon, and has also been Treasurer of the School Board. In his social relations he is identified with the Masonic fraternity, being a member of St. Joseph Lodge No. 281.



**W**ALTER S. AVERILL, a prosperous agriculturist and well-known early settler of Chester Township, Ottawa County, was identified with the privations of the pioneer days of Michigan, and, being a man of enterprise and business ability, has aided in the development of the interests of his home locality and county. Born in the State of New York, April 17, 1842, our subject is the son of Samuel H. and Elizabeth (McFerren) Averill. His father was born in Vermont, November 22, 1797, and his mother in New York, March 21, 1806. They made their home for many years in the Empire State, but in the fall of 1848 emigrated to the West, and in the early winter of 1849 located upon the farm where they long resided.

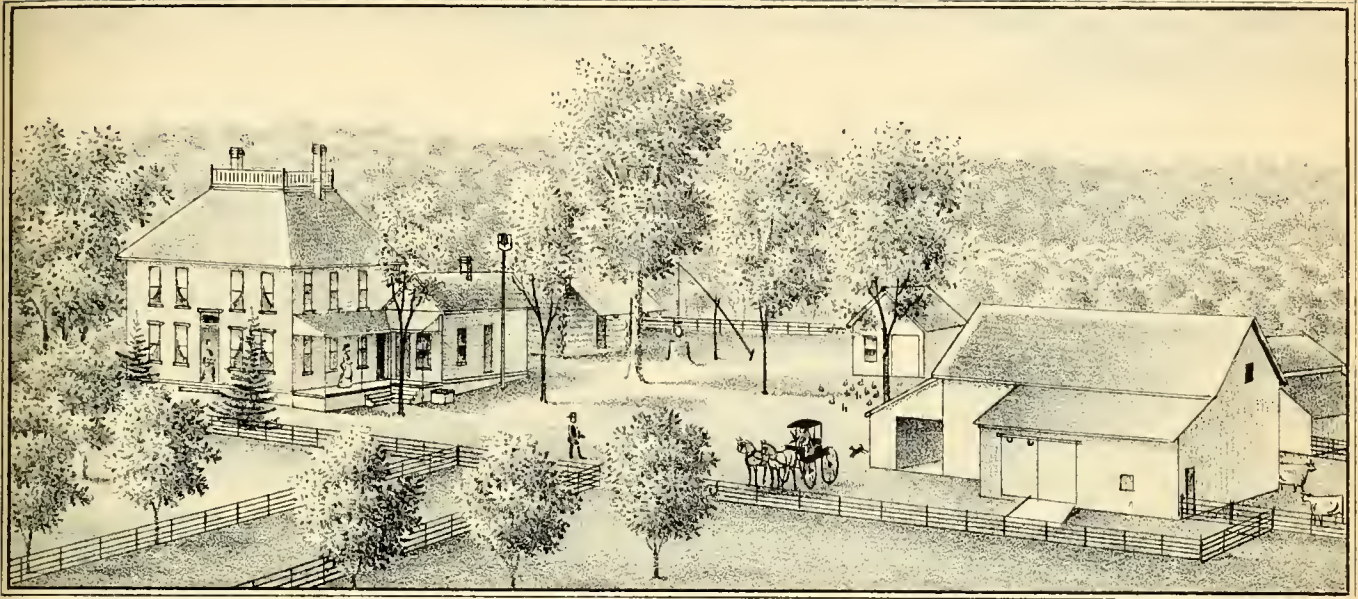
Taking from the Government eighty acres of land at a cost of \$1.25 per acre, the father found himself left with the modest capital of seventy-five cents in ready money. He and his children with united effort toiled early and late to clear, cultivate and improve the land. He died December 16, 1886, when in his ninetieth year. During his many years of usefulness he occupied with fidelity various positions of trust and served several times as Justice of the Peace. He was the first man who in an official capacity gave orders to the township. The primitive method had been to personally notify each individual that at such a time and upon such an occasion they would be called upon to pay a certain sum.

Samuel Averill assisted in surveying most of the sections in Chester Township, and although he received only four days' schooling he was one of the best-informed men in the township. Possessing excellent judgment and habits of close observa-

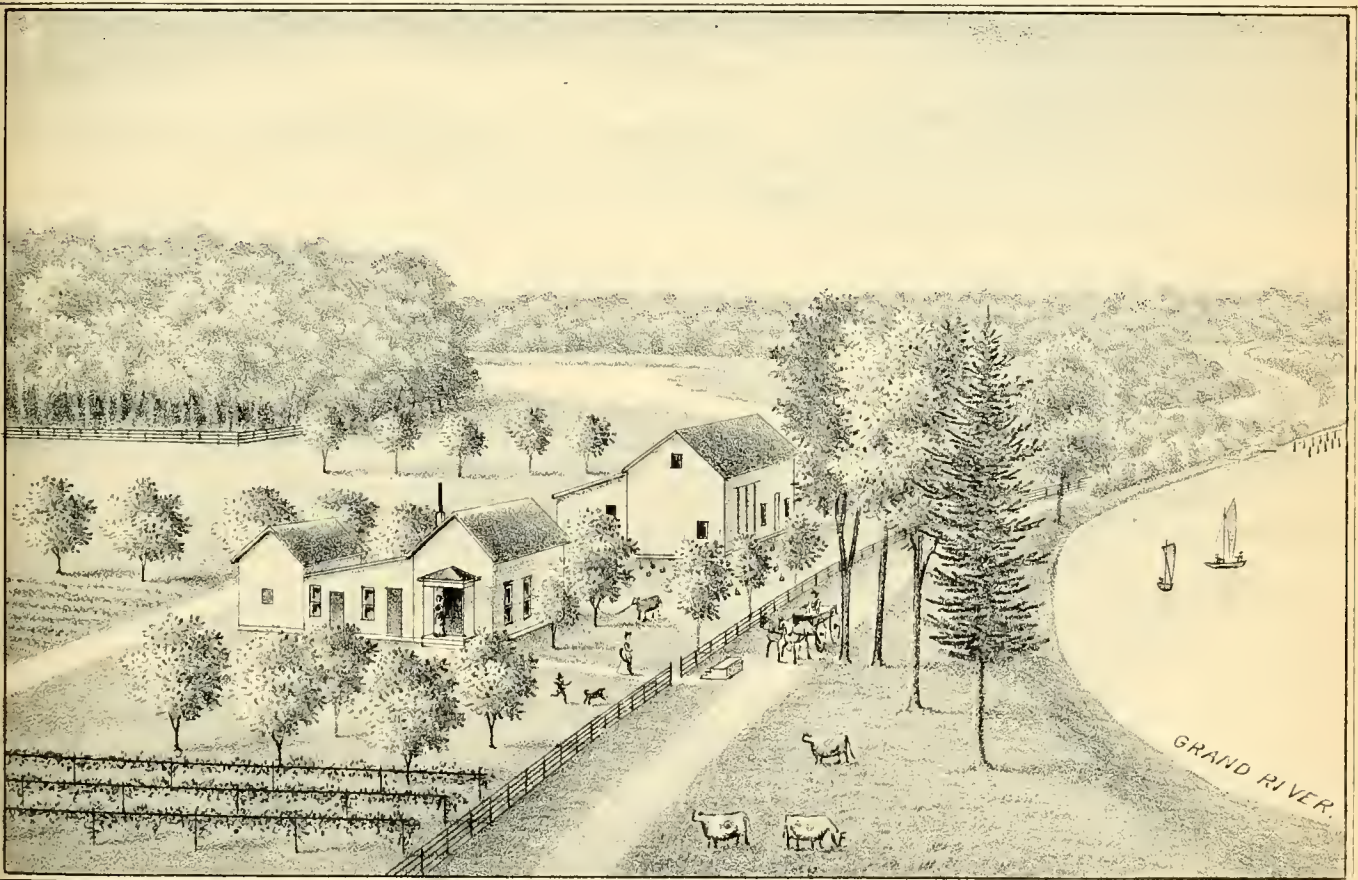
tion, he kept himself intelligently posted on all the public affairs of the day. He and his excellent wife were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom lived to years of maturity. Mary J. is the wife of Dolph Look, of New York; William B. resides in Casenovia; M. B. lives in Muskegon County; Eliza is the wife of John Hilton, of Porterville, Cal.; Edward F. resides in Chester Township; Elvira is the wife of David Waller, of Chester Township; and Walter is the subject of this sketch. The mother passed away January 9, 1875.

Our subject came to this State at the age of eight years, and was educated in the common schools of the home neighborhood. The first school of the district was regularly established in 1852. During the first day's session the teacher found but one scholar, a boy, who could correctly state what year of our Lord it was. After dinner the other scholars seized the unfortunate boy and gave him a thrashing. He immediately returned to his home and was never seen more in that schoolroom; thus was superior knowledge rewarded in the pioneer days. Upon his father's farm Walter Averill attained to manhood, and immediately after his twentieth birthday enlisted, in 1862, in Company B, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, and as a private was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland under the command of James Cavanaugh and A. A. Stevens. He actively participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River and other engagements. He was twice wounded—first in the fight at Perryville, where he received a wound on the left side of his neck which stiffened the muscles and cords. In the battle of Stone River he had his foot shattered with a piece of shell, and for nineteen years has never worn a boot. As a partial compensation for the suffering resultant from his injury he receives a pension of \$12 per month.

Discharged in July, 1863, Mr. Averill at once returned home and continued to assist upon the farm until the death of his mother. Soon afterward he was married, his father residing with him until he too passed away. The homestead reverted to Mr. Averill, who has through all the changing seasons industriously cultivated the fertile fields. Walter Averill was first united in



RESIDENCE OF W. S. AVERILL , SEC. 9. CHESTER TP., OTTAWA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF GEO W. AIKEN , SEC.1., GRAND HAVEN TP., OTTAWA CO., MICH.



marriage with Minerva Wood, a native of Ohio and the daughter of William Waller, an early settler of Chester Township, widely known and highly respected. The estimable young wife survived only one year and bore her husband one child—Alice. A second time entering the bonds of matrimony, our subject wedded Miss Anna B. Thatcher, a native of Pennsylvania and daughter of Edwin and Kate (Carpenter) Thatcher, pioneers of Ottawa County. Mr. and Mrs. Averill are the parents of four children: Ross G., Judd E., Hettie M. and Lee W.

Mr. Averill has held with ability various school offices and is interested in the conduct of public affairs. He is a staunch Republican, but without the aspirations of a politician, and is content to do his duty at the polls, being also ever ready to lend a helping hand in all matters of public welfare. He is fraternally connected with Ravenna Lodge No. 355, I. O. O. F., and is a valued member of Albert Sperry Post No. 337, G. A. R., at Ravenna. In the latter organization he has officiated as Quartermaster and officer of the order. Financially prospered, Mr. Averill owns fifty-five acres of highly cultivated land, which annually yield an abundant harvest. The improvements of the homestead are of a substantial and attractive character, the handsome residence, commodious barns and outbuildings denoting thrift and comfort.

Our subject has a store of interesting reminiscences of the past, and among other incidents relates that his father pounded the first bread out of corn raised upon the farm by means of a stump hollowed out and the use of a heavy wooden pestle. The pestle was used for this purpose for many years, and a number of persons came from a distance of four or five miles to thus pound their corn into meal. Soon after arriving in Chester Township, the father went to Steele's Landing, a distance of fifteen miles, and purchased flour, which he brought home on his back. They had a team of oxen, but as no road was open they could not cross the thickly wooded land. The first team of oxen owned by our subject he bought in 1863, with money earned by clearing land. In this toilsome manner the pioneers gained their homes and

money, and with unceasing industry promoted the growth and enterprises of the West, which to-day is rich in resources, manufactures and the energy of a people whose watchword has ever been "Upward and Onward."



**G**EORGE W. AIKEN, a long-time resident and prosperous horticulturist of Ottawa County, owns a beautiful home upon the banks of the Grand River, a little southeast of Grand Haven, and the homestead contains one hundred and twenty-three acres of fine land, twenty-five acres of which are devoted mainly to gardening and fruit-raising. William Aiken, the father of our subject, was a native of New England, and was born amid the hills of New Hampshire, where he received his education and grew to adult age. After his marriage, he and his wife commenced housekeeping near the scenes of his childhood days.

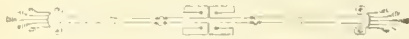
George W., also a native of New Hampshire, from the date of his birth, in 1846, spent the days of boyhood in his birthplace, and gained his education in the common schools of the district. When about twenty years old, inspired with a desire to see something of the world beyond the quiet village of his nativity, he embarked on a whaling voyage, and from 1866 until 1870 was sailing on the Southern Pacific Ocean, all the time below the equator. Cruising along the shores of Juan Fernandez and out in mid ocean, he made some successful catches and returned again to his home on the 5th of July, 1870.

Upon the vessel "Sappho," commanded by Capt. James Handy and owned by a Mr. Seabury, Mr. Aiken first caught a glimpse of the life of a sailor, and experienced the excitements and privations of a whaling voyage. He had scarcely returned to the old New Hampshire home before he decided to try his fortunes in the farther West, and from 1870 to 1874 sailed on the great chain of lakes connecting Buffalo and Chicago. Between these two ports he voyaged upon the bark "Chicago

Board of Trade," in charge of Capt. Fountain, and owned by Charles Bradley. Not long after the close of the season of 1874, Mr. Aiken bought his valuable homestead, and settled down to the tilling of the soil and horticultural employments.

In the year 1872, in Port Byron, N. Y., George W. Aiken and Miss Amelia Doud were united in marriage. Mrs. Aiken is a native of New York, and a daughter of well-known and highly respected citizens of that State, under whose guidance she arrived at adult age an intelligent and industrious young woman, well fitted to undertake the experiences and vicissitudes of life. She received her education in the excellent schools of her native State, and in early womanhood removed with her husband to the farther West, locating in Michigan. The pleasant home of our subject and his estimable wife has been brightened by the birth of two children, a son and a daughter. Jessie was born in 1874, and Edward Doud in 1886. The daughter, now in the dawn of womanhood, has received superior educational advantages and is a social favorite among a large circle of friends.

Mr. Aiken has long been a valued member of the Unitarian Church in Grand Haven, and is a liberal giver in behalf of benevolent enterprise. He is fraternally associated with the Masons, and has for many years been connected with that honored order. Politically a Republican, he is an ardent advocate of the party, but has never been an office-seeker nor has he any desire for public position. He is ever ready to extend aid in all matters of local enterprise, and is intimately associated with the growth and upward progress of the vital interests of his home locality.



**W**ALTER I. LILLIE, one of the promising young attorneys of Grand Haven, is a man possessed of superior mental endowments, strengthened and enriched by the highest culture. His mind is clear, concise, analytical and well poised, and he impresses one at once as a man

of great strength, depth and grasp of mind. The most abstruse and complicated subjects are handled with ease and grace, and made perceptible and plain to the most ordinary understanding. He is of a social, genial disposition and has a large share of those traits of character that go to make up a popular citizen. His professional career has been a success and he is regarded as one of the leading young attorneys of the city. He is a native of this county, born in Tallmage Township October 9, 1855, and the people have had every opportunity to judge of his character and qualifications, for he has resided here the principal part of his life.

Joel B. and Sarah (Augur) Lillie, the parents of our subject, were natives of the State of New York, where the father followed agricultural pursuits for a livelihood. The grandfather, Cyrus Lillie, was of Scotch descent, and the Augur family was of Scotch-Danish origin. In 1845 the father of our subject became convinced he could better his condition by a change of location, and he made his way to Michigan and located in Ottawa County. He still resides in this county and makes his home at Coopersville, where he is highly esteemed. His career presents an example of industry, perseverance and good management, rewarded by substantial results, well worthy the imitation of all. His children, five in number, two sons and three daughters, were in the order of their births as follows: Edith, wife of J. W. Park; Walter I.; Colon C.; Emma E., who now resides in Los Angeles, Cal.; and Anna M., wife of William E. Baxter, who also resides in Los Angeles, Cal.

Walter I. Lillie, the second in order of birth of the above-mentioned children, grew to manhood on his father's farm and received his primary education in the district schools. When twenty-one years of age he entered the Agricultural College at Lansing, Mich., and was actively engaged in his studies in that institution for four years. From there he came to Grand Haven and read law with George A. Farr, being admitted to the Bar at Grand Haven in November, 1884. The following winter he taught school, and during that time pursued his legal studies, afterwards entering the office of Mr. Farr, where he remained two years. In the fall of 1886 he was elected Prosecuting Attor-

ney for Ottawa County on the Republican ticket, and served in that capacity two years. So great was his popularity, and so ably did he discharge the duties of that position, however, that he was re-elected in 1888. He has held other prominent positions, and in his private life has been as exemplary as in his public career he has been useful and influential.

On the 28th of September, 1886, Mr. Lillie was married to Miss Ella McGrath, of Denison, this county, and the daughter of Michael McGrath. Three children have been born to this union: Harold L., Leo C. and Walter Ivan. In politics Mr. Lillie is a Republican and is deeply interested in county, State and national politics. He is at present City Attorney and is a member of the Judicial Committee.



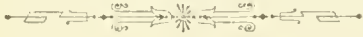
**S**ETH EVANS, an efficient Supervisor and prominent general agriculturist of Cedar Creek Township, Muskegon County, Mich., has for more than twenty-six years been closely identified with the best interests of the State, and, a public-spirited citizen, has materially aided in the rapid advancement of his home neighborhood and vicinity. A native of New England, Mr. Evans was born in Rhode Island and remained in his birthplace until he had attained his majority. His parents, Seth and Amy (Duffy) Evans, were highly respected and well-known residents of Rhode Island and gave their children the best possible opportunities for an education, training their sons and daughters to habits of industrious thrift and sturdy self-reliance. The father was a native of the old Bay State, the paternal grandfather Evans, born and reared in Wales, early emigrating to America and settling in Massachusetts, where, an honest and hard-working man, he steadily made his upward way. The mother, a most estimable woman, was the descendant of a long line of energetic and intelligent ancestry. Marrying, the parents lo-

cated permanently in Rhode Island, their pleasant home being blessed by the birth of thirteen children, twelve of whom lived to mature years, six yet surviving.

One brother resides in New York and four of the family are located in Massachusetts, our subject being the only representative of the family in the Western country. Franklin Evans served in the United States navy under Gen. Farragut at the siege of New Orleans, but most of the brothers and sisters have spent their lives in New England. Seth, named in honor of his father, was married near the scenes of his childhood and had arrived at middle age before he and his wife journeyed to the far West and made for their family a home in the Wolverine State. Our subject was in 1812 united in marriage with Miss Hannah Foster, a lady of fine ability and culture. After a companionship of nearly thirty years, death in 1871 deprived Mr. Evans of his wife, who passed away leaving no issue. A second time entering matrimonial bonds, our subject married Miss Mary Kruse, a native of Germany, who while young crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States. Six children have with their cheerful presence brightened the home of our subject and his worthy wife. John is the eldest-born; Frank is deceased; then followed in the order of their birth Jennie; William; James, deceased; and Frederick, deceased.

Arriving in Michigan in 1866 Mr. Evans settled at once in the locality where he now resides. At first he engaged in the shingle business, but finally determined to give his entire attention to the pursuit of agriculture, and took up one hundred and twenty acres of valuable land. Our subject, financially prospered, later purchased one hundred and sixty acres and has brought under a high state of cultivation eighty acres, which annually yield an abundant harvest. The fine farm is further improved with excellent buildings, and presents a scene of thrift and plenty. Politically a Republican, Mr. Evans has with marked ability discharged the duties of various offices of trust to the satisfaction of his fellow-townsmen and the general public. He was from 1869 elected four times successively Town Clerk, and in 1871 became a popular Supervisor of Cedar Creek Town-

ship, and has with fidelity occupied this responsible position continuously since, with the exception of two years. Intimately associated with the rapid progress and upward growth of his township and county, our subject is widely known and highly esteemed as a neighbor, friend and liberal citizen, ever ready to aid in all matters of local enterprise or mutual welfare.



**E**LBRIDGE G. ROTE is President of the Lakeside Iron Company, which owns one of the leading industries of Muskegon, Mich. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Columbia County, N. Y., September 6, 1844. He traces his descent from ancestors who came from Germany to America in Colonial days. His parents, Matthias and Elizabeth (Wyng) Rote, were both natives of New York, and there spent their entire lives, the father following the occupation of farming in order to provide for the wants of himself and family. There were three children, of whom our subject is the youngest.

Mr. Rote spent his boyhood days in Ashtabula, Ohio, and attended its public schools, acquiring a good English education. At the age of twenty he began learning the machinist's trade in Ashtabula, and in 1866 went to East Saginaw, Mich., where he was further instructed in the business. In 1868 we find him in Bay City, Mich., where he established the Bay City Iron Works, which were owned by an incorporated company, of which Mr. Rote was Treasurer for fifteen years. The concern was placed on a firm financial basis and did a good business. In 1881 he came to Muskegon, where he has since made his home. The same year he organized the Lakeside Iron Company, of which David Barnes became the first President, while he served as Secretary of the company. In 1885, however, he succeeded Mr. Barnes in the Presidency, and has filled that office up to the present time, while C. S. Clover is now serving as Secretary and

Treasurer. The works are located on Western Avenue, and employment is furnished to about twenty men, who are engaged in the manufacture of heavy machinery. They manufacture a steam log-loader and are making extensive sales of this throughout the West.

In 1873 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Rote and Miss Agnes Brown, of Bay City, Mich., a daughter of John Brown, a native of Scotland. Their union has been blessed with four children, three sons and a daughter: Robert Justin, a machinist; Charles Winfield, Archie Ray and Beulah Agnes, who complete the family. The family residence is at No. 190 Western Avenue. The household is the abode of hospitality and its members rank high in social circles.

Besides his home and business, Mr. Rote also owns a good farm in Muskegon County. His success in life is all due to his own efforts, for he started out empty-handed and has steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence, overcoming the difficulties and obstacles in his path by untiring labor, perseverance and a strong determination to succeed. The Democratic party finds in him a supporter, but he has never been an office-seeker. He belongs to Bay City Lodge, A. F. & A. M., to the Order of the Eastern Star, and to Muskegon Lodge, A. O. U. W.



**W**ILLIAM H. POTTER, a skilled workman and the efficient foreman of the boiler department of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad shops, Muskegon, Mich., has enjoyed a wide experience in his present line of business, and in the various responsible positions which he has held has given faithful and practical service. Born in Brockville, Canada, December 20, 1855, our subject is the son of George A. Potter, a native of England and the descendant of a long line of British ancestors who, by their diligent industry and intelligent enterprise, have self-reliantly won their upward way to honored and use-



ful influence. The father settled in Canada in 1838, and was married to Miss Helen O'Brien, whose forefathers were born and reared their families in the Emerald Isle. William H., remaining in the country of his birth during his early life, attended the home schools and was trained carefully in habits of energetic thrift. He was only a youth when he resolved to try his fortunes in the broader field of the United States, and at sixteen years of age he left Canada and, journeying to Elkhart, Ind., there began life for himself.

Giving his time for ten years to an apprenticeship to the boiler-making trade, he became thoroughly versed in every detail of the business, and later received profitable employment in the shops of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad. During the ten years his salary was most limited, he receiving for the first year only \$1 per day, and an increase of twenty-five cents per day for each of the years following. A master of his trade, Mr. Potter finally began to make his way up the ladder of success. On the 1st of September, 1879, after a long journey, he arrived in Ft. Worth, Tex., and there for a time worked in the shops of the Texas Pacific Railroad, thence departing to Toyah, Tex., where he took charge of the boiler department of the shops of the Texas Pacific Railroad, remaining in the latter town eight months. In the spring of 1881 Mr. Potter came to Muskegon and entered the shops of which he is now the department foreman of the boiler works. He has under his supervision nineteen men and does the repairing of the entire system managed by the corporation. Without any desire for political honors, our subject is nevertheless intelligently posted on governmental affairs, and is an ardent Democrat and a firm supporter of the party.

Fraternally, Mr. Potter is a member of Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W., and has many sincere friends within the order. In 1873 William H. Potter and Miss Florence E. King were united in marriage. The estimable wife of our subject was a native of Vermont and the daughter of John L. King. Intelligent children have blessed the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Potter, and in the handsome residence, No. 33 Ottawa Street, four daughters now

assemble. Two sons, the youngest-born, have passed away. The brothers and sisters were in the order of their birth: Florence E., Maud M., Wilhelmina, Sallie G., and William H. and an infant, deceased. The daughters are favorites with a large circle of friends and are enjoying the excellent educational advantages of their home city. Mr. and Mrs. Potter are ready aids in matters of public enterprise, religious and benevolent, and command the high regard of the general public.



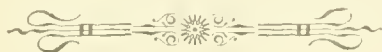
**H**ENRY B. W. VANZALINGEN, an architect and builder of Muskegon, is a native of Holland. He was born November 15, 1824, and is a son of John and Bertha (Ebbaning) Vanzalingen. The father was an architect and builder and followed that business during the greater part of his active life. His son, whose name heads this sketch, was educated in the schools of his native land, and at the age of sixteen he began learning the business of a carpenter, builder and architect, under the direction of his father. He followed that pursuit in Holland until he arrived at the age of thirty years, when he resolved to seek a home and fortune in America.

It was in 1851 that our subject bade adieu to friends and native land and took passage on a sailing-vessel Westward bound, which at length dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. He went at once from that city to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he spent the four succeeding years of his life. On the expiration of that period he came to Muskegon, in 1858, and began contracting and building on his own account. In 1861 he built the first union schoolhouse, and he has erected many of the leading residences, stores and business blocks of the city. He also erected the court house, which was a fine structure, and which was destroyed in the great fire of 1891, which burned out eighteen blocks in Muskegon. His own dwelling and all his household goods were also swept away. Mr. Vanzalingen soon afterward, however,

erected a large and substantial residence, built in a modern style of architecture and supplied with all conveniences and improvements.

In 1819, ere leaving the Fatherland, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Vanniftrik, a genial and intelligent lady, also a native of Holland. Unto them have been born six children: Mary, wife of Mat Hopper; Anna, a leading dress-maker, who carries on quite an establishment in that line; Mattie, at home; Harry, who is manager of the Muskegon Hardware Company and a stockholder in the same; Jennie, wife of Hon. O. B. Fuller, Representative from the Upper Peninsula; and Minnie, wife of John H. Moore, a lumber inspector. They also have six grandchildren.

In politics, Mr. Vanzalngen is a Democrat, and has been honored with a number of positions of public trust. He served ten years as County Surveyor of Muskegon County, and was also City Surveyor of Big Rapids. Himself and wife are members of the Congregational Church, and are worthy people of the community, who have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



**H**ERMANN LANGE, the energetic and popular manager of the Lange Transfer Company, of Muskegon, Mich., has for nearly two-score years been identified with the leading interests of his home city, and during this length of time has occupied a prominent position as an able business man and enterprising citizen. Our subject, a native of Prussia, was born in Beeskow, March 14, 1825. His father, William, born, reared and educated in the Old Country, there spent his entire life, and amid the scenes of his childhood attained to mature years, and after a long career of industrious usefulness passed away in Germany in 1837, mourned by many friends and relatives. The mother, Wilhelmina (Schmidt) Lange, also a native of Prussia and a woman of excellent ability and upright character, survived

her husband, who died when our subject was only a lad twelve years of age. The father, by occupation a brewer, left his family well provided for, and during his boyhood Hermann attended the excellent public schools of the Fatherland. Our subject was the fifth of the seven sons who with their cheerful presence brightened the home of the parents. The children were trained by their wise and prudent mother to habits of industrious thrift, and grew up intelligent and self-reliant.

Hermann Lange, remaining to adult age in his native land, well improved the opportunities of instruction he received, and when nineteen years of age, in 1844, journeyed to France, and, enlisting in the French army, served with courage for some five years. From 1849 variously employed until 1853, our subject at the latter period of time, then twenty-eight years old, finally resolved to try his fortunes in America, and, embarking from the nearest seaport, in safety crossed the broad Atlantic and was landed in Boston, from which city he proceeded directly to Buffalo, later making his home in Cleveland, Ohio. The succeeding year, 1854, Mr. Lange removed to Michigan and settled permanently in Muskegon, where for fifteen continuous years he engaged in the saw-mill business. A man of excellent habits and a good financial manager, he prospered, but later changed his employment, and has since 1869 successfully conducted a draying and transfer business, which, established for nearly a quarter of a century, enjoys the custom of a large trade. The handsome home of Mr. Lange, No. 84 Terrace Street, one of the most desirable residence streets of Muskegon, is well known to a wide circle of old-time friends.

In 1861, Hermann Lange and Miss Henrietta Lange were united in marriage, receiving the congratulations of a large acquaintance. The union of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the birth of an intelligent family of five children, three daughters and two sons. The brothers and sisters are in the order of their birth, Emma, Minnie, Robert, James and Clara. The entire family occupy positions of usefulness and socially enjoy the esteem of all who know them. The sons and daughters, receiving excellent edu-

educational advantages, have worthily fitted themselves for the duties of coming life. Our subject is fraternally a member of German Lodge No. 96, I. O. O. F., and, politically a staunch Republican, is actively interested in local and national issues.



**M**ARENUS VANDER BOSCH. There is an obscurity in the game of life that to the robust mind is always attractive. The important uncertainty of the final outcome, and its value to all, serve as incentives to great deeds, and to push forward and win in the battle is the one common impulse and ambition of humanity. Among those who have fought the battle of life bravely is Marenus Vander Bosch, who is now a retired merchant of Grand Haven, Mich. He is a native of Holland, having first seen the light of day on the 3d of January, 1849, a son of Rev. Koanne and Maria (Rooks) Vander Bosch, the father being a well-known minister of the Holland Christian Reformed Church. They were born, reared and married in Holland, but finally decided to bring up their children in America, and arrived in this country in May, 1857. After a short residence in the city of New York they came to Grand Haven, Mich., from which place they went to Chicago and there spent several years. The father is now a resident of Grand Haven and is in the seventy-fifth year of his age. His wife died in Grand Haven in 1887. Her four sons and one daughter are all honored and substantial residents of Grand Haven.

In the public schools of his native land and in America Marenus Vander Bosch obtained a practical education, well suited to the life he has led, and his youthful days, when not in school, were spent in farming, or rather in learning the details of this calling. After attaining a suitable age he began working at the carpenter's trade, but after following that business for eight years he gave it up to turn his attention to other pursuits. He then became a member of the firm of G. Vander

Bosch & Bro., dealers in general merchandise in Grand Haven, which firm successfully continued to do business for thirteen years. They carried a large and exceptionally well-selected stock of goods at all times, and as it was well arranged and sold at the most reasonable figures, a large and lucrative patronage was the natural result, and the firm prospered. At the end of the above-mentioned thirteen years Marenus Vander Bosch retired from the firm, or rather from its active management, but still retained an interest in the business.

Mr. Vander Bosch and his family are now living in the enjoyment of a competency, which is the result of continued and undeviating effort in the early part of his career. His marriage with Miss Heneberta Korbyn, a native of Germany, was celebrated on the 1st of August, 1869, she being a daughter of Bastean Korbyn. She is an earnest and consistent member of the Holland Christian Reformed Church, in which Mr. Vander Bosch has been an Elder for the past eight years. He is a wide-awake man of business and has interested himself in other lines of business besides the mercantile, being a stockholder in the Grand Haven Furniture Company. He has a pretty and comfortable home in Grand Haven. In politics, he has always been a staunch supporter of the principles of Republicanism. He has in his possession a bible which belonged to his grandfather, Thomas Vander Bosch, and which was published in 1690, thus making it over two hundred years old. It is still in a good state of preservation and is highly valued by Mr. Vander Bosch.



**B**ASTIAN STEKETEE. The question of food supplies is one of the first with which the human family has to grapple, and, viewing the competition from a general standpoint, it will be admitted that the well-appointed grocery establishment does the largest share toward the solution of the problem

of feeding the masses. In such connection we make due reference to the popular grocery of Bastian Steketee, in Holland, Mich. This popular business man carries a fine line of dry goods, groceries, crockery, etc., and the prices are such that no house can surpass him with the same quality of goods. The business is conducted with vigor and push, and patrons are afforded prompt and courteous service, while the stock is continually being replenished and kept choice and attractive.

Mr. Steketee was born in Grand Rapids, Mich., February 9, 1855, and was one of fifteen children born to John and Maria (Fraanje) Steketee, both natives of Holland, but the father of German extraction, and the mother of French descent. The father followed the occupation of a contractor in his native country, and there remained until 1847, when he and his wife and nine children crossed the ocean to America. They located in Holland, Mich., but subsequently moved to Zeeland, where the father bought a farm and entered actively upon his career as a tiller of the soil. In 1853 he sold out and moved to Grand Rapids, where he was engaged in business until 1858, and then came to Ottawa County, Mich., settling at Georgetown. From there he moved to Holland, this State, and there his death occurred in 1878. The mother followed him to the grave the following year. Both were devoted members of the Reformed Church, and people well liked wherever they made their home. A strange thing connected with this family is that all the children, fifteen in number, are now living, are married and have families.

The scholastic training of our subject was received in the old log schoolhouse of pioneer days, and when thirteen years of age he began clerking in a store in Holland, Mich., and was thus engaged for fourteen years, or until 1883, when he embarked in business with his brother Peter. Five years later he bought out his brother and has since continued the business alone. He started with a capital of \$1800, and now has one of the largest groceries in the city. His store is very tastefully fitted up, admirably arranged and well stocked with everything kept in a first-class gro-

cery. Five clerks are engaged, and every courtesy is extended the customers.

In the year 1876 Mr. Steketee was happily married to Miss Ida E. Vanpell, a daughter of Herman Vanpell, who came to this country from the Netherlands at an early date. Seven children have been born to this union, all now living, and the eldest sixteen years of age. In political views Mr. Steketee is a decided Republican, and in religion he is a member of the First Reformed Church, in which he is Deacon, having held that position for about eight years. He is interested in Sunday-school work and has taught a class for about twenty-two years.



**J**ACOB BAAR. It is impossible to place too high an estimate on the importance of the real-estate business in comparison with the various other elements of commercial and financial value; certainly none other rests upon a more conservative and highly honorable basis as regards methods and transactions. There are numerous persons who pursue the occupation of real-estate agents with credit and success, and earn a well-merited reputation for the conscientious and efficient manner with which they conduct affairs intrusted to their charge. Among those of this class may be mentioned Jacob Baar, who is well known in Grand Haven, for he has resided here many years and has ever been identified with the improvement and upbuilding of the city. He is now engaged in the real-estate and loan business, and by his straightforward manner of conducting affairs commands the respect of all.

Mr. Baar was born in the then village of Grand Haven, May 16, 1859, to the union of Simon and Helena (Yonker) Baar, both natives of the Netherlands. In 1854 the parents emigrated to the United States with the hope of making a home for themselves in "the land of the free and the home of the brave." They first settled in Chicago, but moved from there to Kalamazoo, and in 1857 came to Grand Haven, Mich., where they have since resided. Our subject, the third in order of birth of

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*Wm. H. Cox*

four children, reached mature years in Grand Haven and secured a good practical education in the schools of the same. He began clerking in the hardware store of G. W. Miller, and continued in that gentleman's employ for five years, accumulating considerable means in the mean time. After that he was in the employ of George E. Hubbard, hardware dealer, until 1880, when he was elected to the office of Registrar of Deeds of Ottawa County, filling that position in a capable and efficient manner for two years. So satisfactorily did he discharge the duties of that office that in 1882 he was re-elected, and filled that position for two years longer. After leaving the office he embarked in the real-estate business, to which up to the present he has devoted most of his time and attention. In commercial circles he enjoys the highest confidence and is recognized as an honorable, reliable business man, and as a liberal and public-spirited citizen commands the respect of all.

In the month of September, 1878, our subject was married to Miss Hattie Slaghuis, of Grand Haven, Mich., daughter of Abram Slaghuis, who fought for the Old Flag during the Rebellion. To Mr. and Mrs. Baar have been born four children, three daughters and a son. He and his wife hold membership in the Reformed Church, and for three terms he was Director in his school district. He has a very pleasant home in Grand Haven, a neat, tasty residence and a large lawn ornamented with huge maple trees and choice shrubbery. Mr. Baar is a descendant of an old and prominent family and is an honor to his name. He is active in his support of matters of public importance, and takes a deep interest in the success of the Democratic party, with which he has long been identified.



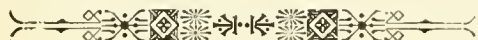
**F**RANK SCOTT, dealer in fine wines and liquors at Muskegon, is a man of excellent business ability, and for thirty-six years has been associated with the growth and prosperity of the city where he now resides and where year after year he has successfully conducted his

present line of trade. Mr. Scott is a native of England, and was born in London January 7, 1824. His father, George Scott, was born, reared and educated in England, and long after arriving at mature age, emigrated to America and located in Michigan. Nine children blessed his marriage, our subject being the third in order of birth. He attended in childhood the schools of his native land and early beginning the struggle of life enjoyed but little recreation even in his youthful days. He was only fourteen years of age when, in 1838, he embarked upon the long voyage to the land of promise, of which he had heard and read so much. Sixty-eight days were occupied in making the passage, and during the two months upon the water the energetic and ambitious boy formed many plans for a future in the United States.

Landing in New York City, our subject made but a brief stay in the great metropolis of the East, and, journeying still farther to the Westward, located in the city of Detroit, Mich., where he secured employment as a sailor upon the Lakes, continuing in that vocation for a time. Later he sailed upon the Atlantic and while thus employed visited the West Indies, in 1849. Enjoying the roaming life which gave him a home in every port, he once more, after returning from the West Indies, followed the Lakes as an occupation, but in 1857, permanently settling in Muskegon, entered into his present business, which he has prosperously managed ever since. He has achieved a comfortable competence and owns valuable city property, including two substantial and commodious brick buildings, two stories in height and located on Clay Avenue. This property brings in a handsome rental and during the last few years has materially advanced in value.

In 1853, Frank Scott and Miss Helen Cleaver were united in marriage, shortly after the return of the former from the West Indies. Mrs. Scott, a lady of worth and intelligence, is a native of England and was educated in the land of her birth. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Scott was cheered by the presence of three children, two sons and a daughter: George, Jessie Helen and Charles G. The sister and brothers received their education in Muskegon, where they attended the

public schools. The pleasant family residence is desirably located at No. 150 Amity Street. Our subject is politically a strong Democrat and an ardent advocate of the "Party of the People." During his long residence in Muskegon he has been identified with the promotion of various public enterprises and is widely known as a man of liberal spirit and progressive ideas. A sincere friend and kind neighbor, ever generous to those less fortunate than himself, he is one of the most popular citizens of Muskegon and possesses the high regard of a host of friends.



**J**AMES P. FALLON. There is nothing which adds so much to the safety and security of the people of a town or city as an active, well-trained, vigilant and excellently equipped fire department. The history of the measures for fire prevention in Muskegon is an interesting one, for the handy wooden bucket and the nimble feet of such as would help composed the equipments of the early residents. James P. Fallon, who is Chief of the fire department in Muskegon, is a practical and first-class engineer, and one who thoroughly understands his business. He is a native of the Nutmeg State, born in the southwestern part June 12, 1859, and the son of Patrick and Sabina (Caughlin) Fallon, both natives of the Green Isle of Erin.

The parents were brought to America when children and settled in Hartford, Conn., where they grew to mature years and married. The father dealt quite extensively in live stock, and after residing there for some years moved to Menomonee, Wis., where the parents live at the present time. Their union was blessed by the birth of nine children, four sons and five daughters. Our subject removed with his parents to Wisconsin in 1874, and assisted his father to cultivate and improve one hundred and twenty acres of good land. While residing with his parents in Connecticut, he received a fair education in the common

schools, and by observation he has since increased that until he is now one of the best-posted young men in Muskegon.

Our subject left the farm in 1876, and began working for Plankinton & Armour, remaining with that company for two years. In 1878 he made his advent into the city of Muskegon. This was in the autumn, and he was with the McGraft Company, in this city, for three years. He then went with the Booming Company, and remained there six months, and in July, 1879, became driver in the fire department at No. 1 engine house. He was then made Captain of the fire department, and filled that position three years, after which he was appointed Chief Engineer and Fire Marshal May 5, 1887, holding the former position at the present time. He thoroughly understands his business and is one of the most efficient officers the city has ever had.

In February, 1885, Mr. Fallon was married to Miss Annie L. Tromp, a native of Muskegon, and the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Flaley) Tromp. One daughter, Mary H., has been born of this union. Mr. Fallon is a member of several secret organizations and was County Delegate of the American Order of Hibernians and also Regent in the Royal Arcanum. In 1892 he was elected Vice-President of the National Association of Fire Engineers. He has a pleasant residence at No. 33 North First Street, and is a popular man in the community.



**C**ESAR THOMAS, M. D., an accomplished general medical practitioner and skillful surgeon, whose extended experience in various foreign hospitals and upon the battlefield has well earned him an enviable reputation as a master of his profession, has for some eight years successfully practiced in his present locality, and resides at No. 20 East Webster Avenue, Muskegon, Mich. Our subject was born in Bex, Switzerland, April 5, 1852. His father, Louis Thomas, a native of the same mountainous country, was the son of



Louis Thomas, and both the father and the paternal grandfather were reared and educated and died in the vicinity of their birthplace, neither experiencing any desire to leave his native land. Descended from a long line of sturdy, honest, God-fearing people, they lived out their quiet lives amid the beloved and familiar scenes of their youth. Our subject received his primary education in Switzerland, and, a studious lad, determined to acquire a profession, and chose that of medicine. He later enjoyed opportunities of instruction in Bavaria and Strasburg, Prussia. He was at one time Assistant Physician in the hospital at Basel, Switzerland, where he remained for two and a-half years, profiting by the supervision of more experienced physicians and enjoying superior opportunities for observation and study.

Dr. Thomas served for one year in the army of Switzerland, but in 1880 finally resolved to emigrate to America, where after a safe voyage he landed in the metropolis of New York, and thence proceeding to the interior of the Empire State practiced his profession for three years in Swormville. In 1883 our subject, recrossing the ocean, revisited his native land and indulged in more extended travel, journeying through Africa and spending some time in Algiers. At last returning to America, Dr. Thomas, January 10, 1885, arrived in Muskegon, since then his permanent home. Opening an office, our subject has from that time devoted himself without intermission to the demands of a large practice, in which he has been especially successful, handling the most complicated diseases with the skill acquired only by experience. Aside from the numerous patients he has within the limits of the city, Dr. Thomas covers an immense outside territory, his country practice being an important feature of his daily rounds.

Our subject, who is a valued member of the West Michigan Medical Association, and likewise a member of the Muskegon Medical Association, still preserves his habits of study and scientific research. He was at one time a member of a German association of physicians and surgeons, and has at various times made valuable contributions to the discussions concerning a variety of diseases and

their specific treatment. In July, 1889, Dr. Thomas was united in marriage with Draier Theresia Gerst, a native of Germany and a lady of worth and intelligence. Mrs. Thomas is a member of the Catholic Church and, interested in religious advancement, is active in good work. Our subject is fraternally a member of the Knights of the Maccabees and, politically, is a pronounced Democrat and a firm believer in the principles and platform of the "Party of the People." Devoted to his professional work, Dr. Thomas has neither time nor inclination to enter the political field, but is heart and soul a true and loyal American citizen, interested in both local and national Government.



**H**ON. MARTIN WAALKES. In reviewing the various branches of industrial and commercial enterprises in the city of Muskegon, Mich., it is our desire to mention in this volume only those houses which are thoroughly representative in the peculiar line of business in which they are engaged. In following out this intention we know of no house in the city more worthy of special mention than that of Martin Waalkes, dealer in clothing and gents' furnishing goods, and ex-Mayor of Muskegon. In clothing he carries a full assortment of the latest styles and patterns, suited to every season, and the business is conducted in a thoroughly first-class manner. He has made a complete success of his business, but only by dint of selling the very best articles at the very lowest prices.

Mr. Waalkes was born in the Netherlands, Holland, March 4, 1851, to the union of John and Grietje (Wieringa) Waalkes. The father was a carpenter by trade, and followed that occupation in his native country until 1866, when he grew restive, bad adieu to friends and scenes long loved, and pitched the household tent in Muskegon, Mich. In this city he followed his business as car-

penyer and he is well known and respected in the community. This worthy couple became the parents of six children, of whom our subject was the eldest. For the most part our subject's school days were passed in his native country, but after coming to Muskegon he attended a three-months school, where he acquired a fair knowledge of the English branches.

After leaving the school room young Waalkes began clerking in the grocery store of R. Kief, continued with that gentleman several years, and then for two years was in a clothing-store. Later, he began clerking for Callan & Dratz, clothiers, and following this was with H. S. Hensen for four years. During the time he was with the latter gentleman he was Alderman of the Third Ward in the city of Muskegon. Later, he was elected to the office of County Treasurer one term, and filled the position in a most satisfactory manner. He has held other important positions, among them that of Deputy Treasurer for four years, and in every instance has discharged the duties in a most exemplary manner. Few men have lived more quietly and unostentatiously than he, and yet few have exerted a more salutary influence upon the immediate society in which they move, or impressed a community with a more profound reliance on their honor, ability and sterling worth. His life has not been illustrious with startling or striking contrasts; but it has shown how a laudable ambition may be gratified when accompanied by pure motives, perseverance, industry and steadfastness of purpose.

In 1888 Mr. Waalkes started in business on his own account, in partnership with Burt Stuit, under the name of Waalkes & Stuit, and has continued this until the present time. In 1889 he was elected Mayor of the city of Muskegon on the Democratic ticket, and served three terms by reelection, thus evincing his popularity. For a time he was a stockholder and Director in the Muskegon Savings Bank. In the year 1872 he was married to Miss Trienlje Dik, of Muskegon, and eight children have been given them, six sons and two daughters. Politically, he is a Democrat, and, religiously, a member of the Christian Reformed Church.

**C**HARLES A. BROTT, Postmaster at Moorland and one of the founders of this thriving little village, was born in Casenovia Township, Muskegon County, Mich., on the 24th of October, 1858. He is a son of Jeremiah and Lodica (Platt) Brott, natives of New York, who migrated to Michigan in 1845 and settled on a farm in Polkton Township, Ottawa County. Thence, in 1857, they removed to Casenovia, Muskegon County, where they have since resided. The father, who is a farmer by occupation, is a man possessing sterling qualities of mind and heart, and is highly regarded by the people of his community.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest of eight children, six of whom are now living. He received the advantages of a common-school education, and at the age of twenty-three began in business for himself. Having learned the trade of a carpenter, he followed that occupation for five years, and then embarked in the mercantile business, purchasing the stock of Jacob D. Hart, of Canada Corners, Casenovia Township. Two years later he sold his business interests at that place to Hiram Thompson, and removed to Moorland Township, where he purchased forty acres, part of which is the present site of the village of Moorland. He aided in platting the town, and the Toledo Saginaw & Muskegon Railroad having been completed in 1888, he built a store and put in a general stock of merchandise.

Soon after commencing in this enterprise, Mr. Brott met with a very serious accident, causing the death of his eldest child and the loss of the greater portion of his stock of goods. The accident was due to the carelessness of a hunter, whose gun was discharged into a large keg of powder, producing a terrible explosion and demolishing the entire front portion of the building. This misfortune so nearly disheartened Mr. Brott that it was only through the encouragement of his friends that he re-engaged in business at this place. Notwithstanding his reverses, he is now on a substantial footing financially and is one of the most prosperous men of the town. He is the present Postmaster at Moorland, having been appointed to that office in 1891, previous to which time he had been Deputy.

May 10, 1879, Mr. Brott was united in marriage

with Miss Myra J., daughter of Henry A. and Mary (Gibbs) Dodge, both natives of New York and since 1867 residents of Michigan. Of this union there were born five children, three of whom are now living: Ada L., Nettie and Charles William. Byron N. died at the age of five years, and Frankie passed away when an infant of six months. Socially, Mr. Brott is a member of Ravenna Lodge No. 355, I. O. O. F., also of the order of Maccabees at Moorland, and is now Keeper of the lodge at this place. In politics a Republican, he has served in numerous official positions to which he has been elected on the party ticket. He has been Township Clerk for six successive terms and is the present incumbent. Aside from his mercantile business, he is largely interested in lumbering and milling. The milling company of which he is a member has done an extensive business, and is now preparing to enlarge its capacity and add a box factory.



**E**NOS STONE. Americans are the greatest travelers on the globe, and, as a natural consequence, in every town of any importance a good livery stable is an absolute necessity, and adds much to the comfort and convenience of the traveler. Enos Stone is the proprietor of a livery and feed stable at Grand Haven, Mich., which is a credit to the town and to the enterprise of the man now at its head. He comes from a State whose men are noted for their push, enterprise and intellectual ability—New York—his birth occurring in Essex County August 10, 1826. His father, Ephraim Stone, was a native of the Green Mountain State, and his mother, whose maiden name was Huldah Wilcox, was also born there. Ephraim was reared to the laborious duties of farming and lumbering, and later operated a carding-machine in the State of New York, whither he moved at an early day.

In the Empire State Enos Stone attained to man's estate, and his education, like that of farmers' sons generally, was of that character that

develops the muscles while expanding the mind, giving to both the culture so necessary to success in life. The common schools of the State of New York were employed to implant the rudiments of an English education, and he succeeded in acquiring a practical knowledge of the ordinary branches of learning. Both of his parents died when he was in his thirteenth year, and at this immature age he was left to struggle with adversity as best he could, and for some time found it difficult to provide himself with the bare necessities of life. He struggled manfully onward, and at last came to the conclusion that the West offered better inducements to the young and enterprising man than the older East, and he accordingly, in 1847, went to Summit County, Ohio, where he secured employment in a sawmill, and later worked on a farm for some years. Later he began dealing in horses, cattle and sheep, and also bought and sold considerable real estate, especially farming land.

In 1872 he came to Grand Haven, Mich., and purchased an interest in a sawmill, in which he began the manufacture of pine lumber as a member of the firm of Bigelow, Stone & Co., which business connection continued for six years. It proved a failure financially, and besides \$10,000 which he lost he was in debt \$700 at the end of that time. After a time he began handling wood, the annual amount controlled by him amounting to seven thousand cords. He is now doing an exceedingly prosperous livery business, and his former experience with horses has stood him in good stead, his animals and vehicles being well cared for and at all times ready for the use of the traveling public.

In 1848 he married Miss Hattie Armstead, of Columbus, Ohio, who died, leaving him with three children to care for: Mary J., now a widow; Henry H. and Bert. His second marriage occurred in Summit County, Ohio, Miss Jane Trotter becoming his wife, to which union no children have been born. In politics, Mr. Stone has by no means been a partisan, but has always been very conservative, and votes for the man whom he considers most likely to labor for the good of his section. Notwithstanding the fact that his early life was marked by many hardships, and that later in life he met with severe financial losses, he has been

reasonably successful from a business standpoint, and is now possessed of a comfortable competence. His business qualities are of that class that succeed by steady industry, persevering toil and incorruptible honesty. He is generous in disposition and genial in manners, and as a natural consequence has a host of friends.



**J**AMES CAVANAUGH, a prominent builder and contractor of Muskegon, Mich., is a veteran of the late Civil War and has occupied with distinguished ability various important positions of trust in his home city. Born in Grand Manan, in the Bay of Fundy, Province of New Brunswick, on the 27th of November, 1832, our subject was the son of William and Nancy N. (Starr) Cavanaugh, both natives of County Tyrone, Ireland, from which locality the father emigrated to New Brunswick, settling in St. John in 1826. The mother, attaining to adult age in the Old Country, later journeyed to New Brunswick, where she married and became the mother of thirteen children, of whom James was the third in order of birth. While yet a little lad, five years of age, Mr. Cavanaugh with his parents removed to New York City, where in early childhood he attended the common schools and received his primary education. Apprenticed at thirteen years of age to a morocco manufacturer, our subject passed seven years of his life in acquiring the details of a trade in which he became an acknowledged expert and a craftsman of more than ordinary skill. He perfected a system for the tanning and dressing of lambskins and the manufacturing of white kid gloves, and brought both art and science to bear upon the complicated business.

In 1851 Mr. Cavanaugh made his home in Detroit and on account of his health abandoned his former occupation and engaged in business as a carpenter and ship-joiner, remaining in this line of

work until 1857, when he removed to Grand Rapids. In 1861, answering to the call of the Government, our subject enlisted at Grand Rapids in Company A, Third Michigan Infantry, which company was originally the old Valley City Guards. The regiment was under Col. Daniel McConnell, and the commander of the brigade was Gen. Richardson. Mr. Cavanaugh was Sergeant of the skirmishers who fired the first shot in the first battle of Bull Run, and after remaining one year in the Army of the Potomac received his commission as Captain of Company B, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, and served with courage at the battles of Perryville and Stone River, also engaging in numerous skirmishes; but in 1863, on account of failing health, was forced to resign and returned to his former home. Not long after our subject received his appointment as Assistant Provost-Marshal of Grand Rapids, but in 1865 came to Muskegon, where he formed a partnership with D. Kelley and P. A. Ducey, under the firm name of Kelley & Co., manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds. In 1878 Mr. Cavanaugh sold out his interest in the business and has since been variously employed.

In 1869, organizing a fire department in Muskegon, our subject remained its active head until 1880, when he resigned the responsible position. In 1875, upon the completion of the water works, he was appointed Superintendent of the same and remained in full charge until 1882, when he resigned and for a time engaged in the sawmilling business. For three years Mr. Cavanaugh was the efficient Superintendent of the Monroe Manufacturing Company, and throughout his career has in his private and public work given great satisfaction to all parties interested, being widely known as a thoroughly practical and honored man of business.

In 1856 were united in marriage James Cavanaugh and Miss Anna L. Nolan, a native of Macomb County, Mich., and a daughter of P. U. Nolan. Eight children, five sons and three daughters, have blessed the union of our subject and his excellent wife. The brothers and sisters are in the order of their birth: May V.; Lizzie J.; William S., of Muskegon; Katie, the wife of P. Talley, of Chicago; Charles, living in Menominee, Mich.; Frank L., a student at college in Sandwich,

Ontario; and Frederiek, also in Sandwich, Ontario; Lewis S., is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Cavanaugh are devout members of the Catholic Church and are liberal givers in behalf of religious work and benevolent enterprise. The pleasant home is upon Terrace Street and is a most attractive residence, of modern design and handsomely finished.

Politically a Democrat, our subject, while deeply interested in local and national Government, is not an office-seeker. He is Past Commander of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R., and no one more enjoys the reunions of the veterans than he. Mr. Cavanaugh is a Post Regent of the Royal Arcanum and has been for seven years, and with great ability held every minor office, his executive talents being thoroughly appreciated by the members of the association. During his career of energetic industry our subject has been financially prospered and has steadily won his upward way to success and the high regard of a wide acquaintance.



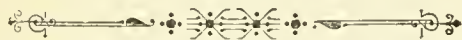
**J**OSEPH H. CLARK, the enterprising junior partner of the able law firm of Jones & Clark, and a well-known and prominent citizen of Muskegon, Mich., is a native of Ohio, and was born in Erie County, near the city of Sandusky, December 20, 1860. His parents, Nelson and Sarah (Weller) Clark, were highly respected residents of the Buckeye State, where they occupied positions of useful influence. The father, born in Vermont and the descendant of a long line of honored New England ancestors, possesses broad intelligence and native ability of a high order. Partially reared and educated among the Green Mountains of his native State, Nelson Clark later attained to an ambitious and self-reliant manhood in Ohio, to which State he accompanied his parents, there spending forty years, devoted mainly to the pursuit of agriculture in Erie County. Late in life he removed to his present location in North Muskegon. The

paternal grandfather, Joseph Clark, in whose honor our subject was named, was a leading citizen of his locality in Vermont, but became an early settler of Ohio, removing from his New England home to the then far West, the Buckeye State, when a large part of the land had not been reclaimed from its original primitive condition.

The mother of our subject was born, reared and educated in the State of New York, and was the daughter of Benjamin Weller, who occupied a leading position in his part of the country. Enjoying excellent advantages in her youth, the mother grew up to an able and noble womanhood, and was well fitted to assume the care of a home and family, and she now resides with her husband in North Muskegon. The parents were blessed by the birth of but one child, a son, Joseph H., our subject. He passed his boyhood upon the old Erie County homestead and was early trained to the round of agricultural duties, assisting his father in the work of the farm and attending the nearest school of the district. He later enjoyed the advantage of more advanced study in Castalia, Ohio, and after a time entered the Normal School of Valparaiso, Ind., and graduated with honor. Mr. Clark then taught school the two succeeding years in Ohio and was more than ordinarily successful in his vocation of instructor.

In 1882 our subject, journeying to Michigan with a view to establishing himself in business, remained for a time in White Rock, Huron County, where he taught school two years and, meantime enterprisingly reading law, passed an examination in February, 1885, and at this latter date was admitted to the Bar. He then entered the office of Winsor & Snover, at Port Austin, Huron County, Mich., and remained with that legal firm one year. He next made his home in Manistique, Mich., where he successfully engaged in the practice of his profession until 1890, when he came to Muskegon and not long after entered into his present partnership with Arthus Jones, the firm now enjoying an extended and rapidly increasing practice in all the courts of the State. A friend to educational advancement and vitally interested in the subject, Mr. Clark for three years was a valued

member of the Board of School Examiners and was the Prosecuting Attorney of Schoolcraft. Fraternally associated with the Knights of Pythias, and also a member of the Maccabees, our subject numbers many staunch friends among those orders. Politically an ardent Republican, he takes a leading place in the local councils of his party and, financially prosperous, has before him the prospect of a bright career, and into his future work of life carries the hearty good wishes of all who know him. Mr. Clark resides in a pleasant part of Muskegon, making his home at No. 133 Lake Street.



**C**ORNELIUS VAN DOORNE, a highly-esteemed citizen and representative general agriculturist residing upon a valuable homestead in Grand Haven Township, Ottawa County, has for many years been identified with the growth and advancement of his neighborhood, and is widely known as a man of sterling integrity of character. His parents came to this country with their family in 1851, and, locating at Grand Island, near Niagara Falls, for three years lived in that beautiful region of the Empire State. Deciding that the West offered greater opportunities, the father, Martinus Van Doorne, brought his family to Grand Haven, Mich., and remained here about six months. He then located about four miles south of Grand Haven, upon a farm which he had previously purchased, and which consisted of one hundred and twenty acres, situated in the dense woods. Hard work was required to clear the land before the soil could be brought under profitable cultivation. The father, a man of high ability and excellent attainments, passed away in 1882, mourned by many friends.

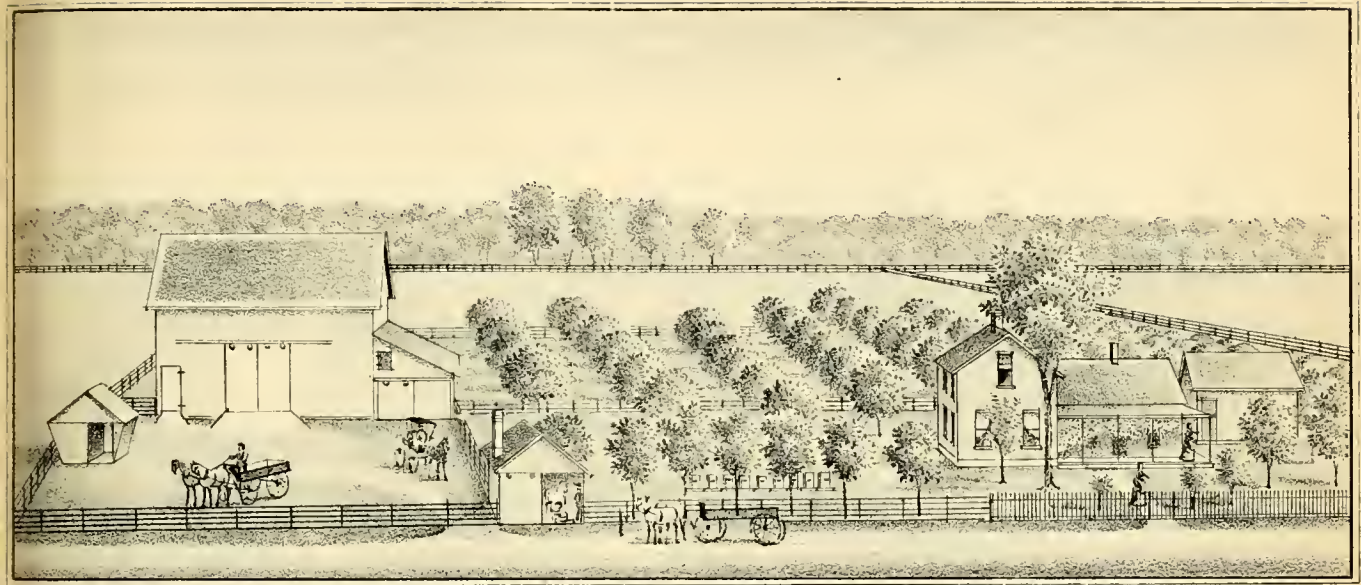
Born in the Netherlands in 1842, our subject was but nine years of age when he accompanied his parents, brothers and sisters across the broad Atlantic to America, and was only a trifle more than twelve years of age when he came to the

farm in the dense wood. He never went to school a day in his life, but learned to read and write through his own unaided exertions, and is a well-informed man. In the year 1866 Cornelius Van Doorne and Miss Anneke Ver Wy were united in marriage. Mrs. Van Doorne was born in the Old Country and was a mere child when, in company with the other members of the family, she embarked for America. Her parents settled on Grand Island in 1852, and two years later, in company with other emigrants from their birthplace, journeyed from New York to Grand Haven, near which city they made their permanent home. There the estimable wife of our subject received her education in the district schools.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Van Doorne resulted in the birth of fifteen children, ten of whom are now living: Martinus C., Cornelius J., Marines S. C., John C., Anneke C., Dirk, Margje, Cornelia, Annas and Peter. The children are unmarried and all reside with their parents with the exception of Martinus and Marines. Of the eighty acres comprising the valuable homestead owned by our subject, forty-five are now under a high state of cultivation and annually yield an abundant harvest of rye, potatoes and corn, and a large variety of fruits. The farm is improved with a substantial dwelling and commodious barns and sheds, and is the abode of thrift and plenty. Mr. Van Doorne and his family commune with the First Dutch Reformed Church. Politically connected with the People's party, he is well posted concerning the current topics of the day, and has for a number of years efficiently served as Highway Commissioner of Grand Haven Township.



**R**N. KENNEY, an enterprising agriculturist, conducts a valuable and highly-improved farm located upon section 2, Holton Township, Muskegon County. For a score of years he has aided in the development of the State, and through his own self-reliant efforts has achieved a comfortable competence. A



RESIDENCE OF R. N. KENNEY, SEC. 2, HOLTON TP., MUSKEGON CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF CORNELIUS VAN DOORNE, SEC. 10, GRAND HAVEN TP., OTTAWA CO., MICH.

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native of the Empire State, our subject was born in Essex County in 1830, and is a son of Asa and Lucinda (Heald) Kenney, long-time residents of New York State, the mother being a native of Essex County. The maternal grandfather, by birth an Englishman, early emigrated to America and reared his family in the State of New York.

Asa Kenney was a son of Josiah Kenney, who with his wife and family made his early home in New England, but passed the latter years of his life in the Empire State, where he was well known as a man of ability and sterling integrity of character. Throughout his entire life he followed the occupation of a tiller of the soil. He was identified with all the local enterprises and progressive movements of his locality, and was also an aid in the extension of religious work, from his youth being a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The sons and daughters who blessed the home of Grandfather Kenney were: Amos; Adden; Asa F., father of our subject; Marinda, wife of James Heald; Anna, who married Asa Saunders; Lyda, wife of Isaac Williams; and Elthius, all of whom are now deceased.

Asa F. Kenney was born amid the Green Mountains of Vermont, in Cavendish County, and received a limited education in the schools of his birthplace. He was reared upon a New England farm and was thoroughly at home in the details of agricultural work. At nineteen years of age he removed to Essex County, N. Y., and there bought two hundred acres of wild land. He engaged in distilling when a young man, and through the profits of that business paid for his farm, which he brought to a high state of improvement. In the Empire State he married a daughter of James Heald, and upon the broad acres where he spent the greater part of his life he reared to mature age ten children, nine of whom are yet surviving. He was a man of indomitable will and courage, and after making his home in New York took an active part in the War of 1812, afterward receiving a land grant from the Government. He and his wife were active Christian workers and valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically, he was an ardent Jacksonian Democrat, and a firm advocate of his party. He passed away

at the age of three-score years and ten, his wife surviving until eighty years of age.

The sons and daughters of Asa F. Kenney were, in order of their birth: Chittenden, Frederick, David, Ransome N., Adoniram, Adeline (who died at the age of seventy years), Caroline, Nour-sisa, Lourancy and Luream. At the age of twenty our subject began life for himself, and first engaged in teaming and later in farming. For eighteen years he remained in the employ of others. About two-score years ago, in Essex County, N. Y., were united in marriage R. N. Kenney and Miss Rosetta, daughter of Thomas and Harriet Combs. Unto this union were born six sons and daughters: Harriet, wife of John Wooley; Mary A., wife of Amba Tripp; Ida, wife of O. W. Ston; Allington, residing in Scottville, Mich.; Arthur, at home; and Bertha, an artist, in Wisconsin.

In 1873 our subject located in Muskegon, Mich., after having spent four years in Oceana County. Entering eighty acres of Government land, he settled in the heart of the woods (mostly hemlock) and has himself improved seventy acres, all under fine cultivation, the homestead presenting a scene of thrift and plenty. He and his wife are valued members of the Baptist Church, and are ever ready to aid in the good work and religious enterprises of their denomination. Politically a Prohibitionist, our subject is a strong temperance man, and in all the relations of life may be found upon the side of right and justice. Self-reliantly has he won his way to a comfortable competence, and to-day receives the high regard and confidence due him as a self-made man and liberal-spirited citizen.



**J**OHN W. BARNS, of The Bryce, Barns & Green Manufacturing Company, of Grand Haven, is a wide-awake and enterprising young business man, who has the honor of being a native of the city which is still his home, his birth having here occurred in 1862. His fa-

ther, John W. Barns, was a native of Vermont, and became one of the early settlers of Grand Haven, where he resided until called to the home beyond, in 1892. In politics, he was a Democrat and took quite an active interest in political and public affairs. He served as Alderman of the city for several years and was also a member of the School Board. He long held membership with the Odd Fellows' Society and was widely and favorably known in this locality. He married Ruth C. Breau, a native of New York, and a daughter of Peter Breau, who was born in France. She is still residing in Grand Haven. The ancestors of the Barns family came from Scotland.

Our subject has spent almost his entire life in this city. His boyhood days were passed midst play and work, and in the common schools he acquired a liberal education. At the age of twenty-one he made a contract to furnish cooperage stock for the firm of Kilbourn & Co., of Grand Haven, and continued in that line of business for a period of seven years, on the expiration of which he abandoned it in order to turn his attention to other pursuits.

In 1884 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Barns and Miss Lillie Stone, a lady of culture and refinement, who is a native of Ohio, and a daughter of George W. Stone. Their union has been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter, Florence and Kenneth. The Barns home is a hospitable one, and our subject and his wife rank high in social circles where true worth and intelligence are received as the passports into good society.

After discontinuing his connection with Kilbourn & Co., Mr. Barns formed a partnership with M. L. Green and Mr. Bryce, and established the present business, under the firm name of The Bryce, Barns & Green Manufacturing Company. Our subject is now superintendent of the works. They do a general planing-mill business, manufacture all kinds of woodwork for interior finishing, stairs, etc., and also manufacture sash, doors and blinds. The mill is equipped with all the latest improved machinery for work in this line and has a capacity of forty thousand feet of lumber per day. Employment is furnished to ten men

throughout the year, and the business, which is constantly increasing, is now in a flourishing condition under the able management of Mr. Barns. He is a man of excellent business and executive ability, pays careful attention to all details, and is sagacious and far-sighted. He is strictly honorable in all dealings, and the confidence and regard of the community are his in a high degree. In politics, he is a supporter of the Democracy, but has never been an aspirant for official preferment. Socially, he is a member of the Order of Red Men, belonging to Highland Camp No. 203, Maccabees.



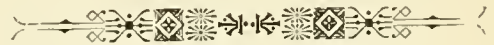
**D**AVID McLAUGHLIN, deceased, since 1864 a prominent citizen of Muskegon, Mich., for fourteen years the efficient County Clerk and Register of Deeds, and later prosperously conducting a law and real-estate business, entered into rest in 1891, mourned by his fellow-citizens as a public loss, and highly respected by all who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance. A man of executive ability, clear judgment and upright character, our subject identified himself with all the growing interests of his home locality, and took an active part in local, county, State and national politics. Two years have passed since his untimely demise, and to-day his memory is as fragrant in the hearts of his friends as though he had passed away but yesterday. Mr. McLaughlin, a native of Scotland, was born in Edinborough County in the year 1830, and was in the full vigor of manhood, mentally and physically, at the time of his death, transacting business with the energetic ambition of youth. His father, William, was a Scotch farmer, who, with industrious prudence tilling the soil of his native land, there remained content throughout his uneventful career.

The mother of our subject, Agnes (Brown) McLaughlin, born, educated and married in Scotland, was the descendant of a long line of sturdy ancestors, who throve amid the hills of old Scotia.

David McLaughlin received his education in the common schools of his birthplace. He early assisted his father in the round of farming duties, and while only a lad gained an extended knowledge of agricultural pursuits. Having arrived at his majority an ambitious and enterprising young man, with a desire to mingle with the outside world and try his fortunes in a broader field of action, our subject resolved to emigrate to the United States. Bidding farewell to the friends and scenes of childhood, he in 1851 crossed the Atlantic and, arriving safely in the United States, journeyed to Illinois and settled in Cass County. Engaging in general merchandising and meeting with unexpected success, he continued to there prosperously handle a variety of goods for the succeeding twelve years. In 1861, removing to Muskegon, Mr. McLaughlin here entered into mercantile business, and for several years managed an extended business, commanding not only a good city trade, but also enjoying a custom reaching out into the surrounding country.

When elected to the position of County Clerk and Register of Deeds, he retired from merchandising and devoted himself with faithful ability to his public work. In the mean time studying law, our subject was later admitted to the Bar and, an eloquent advocate and an expert in real-estate values, prosperously combined the two lines of business up to the time when he was stricken by mortal illness. In 1853 David McLaughlin and Miss Isabella Campbell, a native of Scotland and a daughter of Blair and Isabella (Grey) Campbell, were united in marriage. Five sons blessed the union of our subject and his estimable wife, four of whom are now living. William B. is Cashier of the Union Bank of Muskegon; David C. resides in Park City, Utah; James C. is a lawyer and resident of Muskegon; Prof. A. C. McLaughlin, who is the youngest-born, resides in Ann Arbor. John died at the age of about fourteen. Mrs. McLaughlin, a lady of native worth and broad intelligence, continues to reside in her pleasant home at No. 185 Terrace Street. Our subject was a leader in the local and State councils of the Republican party, occupied with honor for twenty-five years a position as member of the School Board, and during the quarter of a

century directed his earnest efforts to educational advancement and the promotion of higher grades of scholarship and instruction in the schools of Muskegon. A man of high principle and sterling integrity of character, David McLaughlin bequeathed to his children as a precious legacy the remembrance of his spotless career as a friend and citizen, true to every duty of life and steadfast for right and justice.



**J**AMES E. BALKEMA. As a conspicuous example of success in business pursuits in North Muskegon, the establishment of Mr. Balkema presents a most notable instance, its business having steadily expanded from year to year from its inception until the present time (1893). It is without exception the largest and most complete establishment of the city, and its annual sales average from \$25,000 to \$37,000. Mr. Balkema is a thorough business man, and supervises all the details with a perfect system, and deals with all upon accurate, reliable and honorable methods.

A native of the province of Groningen, Holland, our subject was born October 5, 1856, being the son of Edward B. Balkema, who died at the early age of thirty-eight years. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Elsa Kraai, was also born in Holland, and after the death of Mr. Balkema she married John Dyke. James was the eldest of three sons, and was a lad of nine years when he accompanied his mother and stepfather to America, locating with them in Grand Haven, Mich. Prior to leaving Holland, he had attended the schools of that country and gained a good knowledge of the Dutch language, which he uses fluently. For a time after settling in Grand Haven, he conducted his studies in the common schools and there mastered the English language.

At the age of fourteen, the subject of this sketch commenced to work in a sawmill at Grand Haven, entering the employ of the firm of Boyden & Ack-

ley, with whom he remained for twelve years. He carefully saved his earnings until he had a cash capital of \$500, with which he embarked in the general mercantile business at Grand Haven. From the first his efforts were successful, and as he was the possessor of excellent business qualifications, he was prospered in his enterprises. After having conducted his store for five years, he sold his interest to his partner, clearing \$2,000 in the transaction.

In 1886 Mr. Balkema entered the general mercantile business at North Muskegon, and now occupies a position among the most successful merchants of the county. Although his business calls for his close attention, he nevertheless finds time for public affairs, and, as a Democrat, takes a prominent part in local politics. He has served acceptably as Treasurer of the village, Alderman from the First Ward, and in other positions of honor. He aided in framing the charter of the city, and has otherwise contributed to the progress of the place. Socially, he is identified with Lodge No. 29, K. O. T. M., at North Muskegon.

The domestic life of Mr. Balkema has been as happy as his business career has been successful. His marriage took place in Grand Haven in October, 1882, his bride being Miss Rosie Vyn, formerly a resident of Grand Haven, this State. She was born and reared there, being the daughter of Derk and Clara Vyn. The family circle is completed by the presence of five children: Elsie, Clara, John, Richard and James.



**J**OSEPH H. PARSONS, County Superintendent of the Poor of Muskegon County, and a prominent and well-known resident of the city of Muskegon, was born in Hartford Township, Windsor County, Vt., on the 22d of January, 1826, and comes of an old New England family, that was founded in America by English ancestors at an early day. His grandfather, Moses Parsons, and his family lived at Royalton, Wind-

sor County, Vt., at the time of the sacking of that place by the Indians, and was taken prisoner and carried to Montreal with many others. He was a native of Hartford, Conn., and his father, Joshua Parsons, was born in Hartford, Vt. The latter married Laura Safford, a native of Pittsfield, Vt., and a daughter of Joseph Safford.

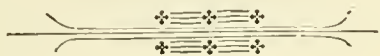
Our subject spent the first nineteen years of his life in the county of his birth, and the public schools of the neighborhood afforded him a good education. At the age of nineteen years he went to Massachusetts and there learned the currier's trade, and later learned the trade of manufacturing combs, which he followed for about eight years. In 1856 he severed his business connections in Massachusetts, and emigrated Westward, locating in Michigan. He took up his residence in Sherman Township, St. Joseph County, where he worked on a farm for eight years. The year 1863 witnessed his arrival in Muskegon County, where he resumed farming, which he carried on for a year.

In 1864 Mr. Parsons entered the service of his country as one of the boys in blue of Company G, Twenty-third Michigan Infantry, under the command of Col. Spaulding. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Ohio, commanded by Gen. Scofield. In April, 1866, Mr. Parsons was mustered out at Raleigh, N. C., and at once returned to his home in Muskegon. For a time he followed various pursuits, and then among other things was employed by the Rogers' iron manufactory for four years as watchman, and there continued until 1875, when he was appointed Superintendent of the County Poor Farm of Muskegon County, which position he held for ten years. In the fall of 1887, he was re-appointed by the Board of Supervisors to the office, which he has since held. He has therefore served as Superintendent of the County Poor for more than fifteen years, and his long-continued service certainly indicates a faithful and efficient performance of duty.

In December, 1848, Mr. Parsons was united in marriage with Miss Clarissa Sunderlin, a native of New York, and a daughter of David Sunderlin, who was also born in the Empire State, as was his father, Jeremiah Sunderlin. A family of six chil-

dren has been born unto them, only three now living: Mary, wife of Capt. A. C. Majo, of Duluth, Wis.; Nettie, the wife of David Henderson, of Muskegon; and Nina L., wife of E. Humble, of West Duluth, Wis.

Mr. Parsons and his wife reside at No. 129 Peck Street. Socially, he is connected with Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R. In politics, he is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party. In public and private life he is alike true, and his official career is above reproach. A high testimonial in his favor is certainly his long-continuance in office.

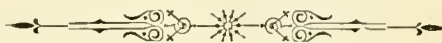


**J**OHAN CAMPBELL, member of the firm of Gow & Campbell, manufacturers of lumber at North Muskegon, was born in Madoc, Canada, July 12, 1849. His father, Donald Campbell, was a native of Scotland, and was a mere child at the time he accompanied his parents to America. He grew to manhood in Canada, and engaged in business as a lumberman for a long period, meeting with fair success in that occupation. His marriage united him with Miss Catherine McDonald, who was born in Lancaster, Canada, being the daughter of Donald McDonald, a native of Scotland. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Archibald Campbell, was born in Scotland, and in an early day bade adieu to his friends in the land of thistles and, crossing the broad Atlantic, settled in Canada, where he remained until called hence by death.

Five sons and two daughters comprised the parental family, and of these our subject was the second in order of birth. He passed his childhood years in the land of his birth, receiving such educational advantages as were afforded by the schools of Canada. In 1866 he came to Muskegon and for a time worked as a lumberman in the woods near this city, in this way gaining a practical knowledge of the business. In 1882, in connection with

James Gow, he established the mill which they have since conducted. They give steady employment to a force of thirty-eight men, and their enterprise is one of the most flourishing in the county.

July 4, 1880, occurred the marriage of John Campbell to Miss Florence Corsaut. This estimable lady was born in Michigan. She was the eldest child of James and Martha Corsaut, and is a lady whose noble qualities and refined manners have won for her a host of warm, personal friends. Three daughters have blessed their marriage: Edna M., Ethel and Martha F. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Campbell has been chosen by his fellow-citizens to occupy positions of high honor and trust, in all of which his abilities have been used for the promotion of the welfare of the people. He served as President of the village of North Muskegon and as Mayor of the city, doing much while serving in these capacities to secure needed municipal reforms. As President of the School Board, he has taken a prominent part in educational matters and has secured an excellent public-school system in North Muskegon.



**J**OHAN VAUPELL. The United States have given rare opportunities to men with courage, honesty of purpose, integrity and energy to achieve success. The bulk of those who have legitimately achieved fortune have been men with the above characteristics, and Mr. Vaupell is assuredly one of that stamp. He is of the people, and his success as a business and public man has come of his devotion to right and his tenacity of purpose. He is now Secretary of The Grand Haven Leather Company, and is widely known throughout the community as an energetic, honorable business man, his standing and position in both business and social circles being of the highest and most creditable character. The Grand Haven Leather Company was established in July, 1885, and has a capital of \$100,000. All

kinds of harness, belts and skirting for saddles are manufactured, and in quality, elegance and workmanship the goods turned out by this concern are recognized as first class. The plant is located in East Grand Haven, near the bank of Grand River, and hemlock is the kind of bark used in tanning. The company has good machinery and is well equipped in all departments of the works. From forty to fifty men are employed in the various departments, and five hundred hides are used per week, the products being shipped East, South and to Western cities. The officers of this company are: A. J. Nyland, President; George Stiekney, Treasurer; and Mr. Vaupell, Secretary. They are men widely known throughout the community as energetic, honorable business men, and their standing and position in both commercial and social circles are of the highest and most creditable character.

Mr. Vaupell was born in Livingston County, N. Y., April 12, 1852, and is the son of Herman and Cornelia (Nyhuis) Vanpelli, both natives of the Netherlands. The father was a harness-maker by trade, and followed the same in New York State until 1860, when he came to Michigan and settled in Ottawa County. He died in Holland, this county, in January, 1881, and his wife breathed her last in January, 1893. They were the parents of seven children, all of whom are now living. Until eight years of age the original of this notice remained in his native State, and then moved with his parents to Michigan, receiving his education in the district schools of Ottawa County and the High School in Holland. He then began his career as a shipping-clerk in the store of E. J. Herrington, a merchant of that place, and there had instilled into his youthful mind excellent ideas of business life. He continued to make his home in Holland, and for a time was connected with the bank, and also served as Marshal and Deputy Sheriff for four years.

In the fall of 1880 he was elected Sheriff of Ottawa County on the Republican ticket with a good majority. So satisfactorily and efficiently did he discharge the duties incumbent upon that position that he was re-elected in 1882. At the close of his last term of office he was made

Secretary of the Grand Haven Leather Company, of which he was one of the principal organizers, and now owns a large part of the stock. Mr. Vaupell was married in 1877 to Miss Hattie E. Kellogg, of Grand Rapids, Mich., but she died fifteen months later, leaving one child. In 1880 he married Miss Josephine Bicknell, of Malone, N. Y., daughter of Leonard Bicknell, and two children have blessed this union: Leonard J. and Helen K. In politics, Mr. Vaupell is an ardent supporter of Republican principles. He has a handsome residence on Franklin Street and is surrounded by all the comforts of life.



THOMAS JOHNSTON, one of the proprietors of the Johnston Brothers' Boiler Works of Ferrysburg, is one of Michigan's native sons, his birth having occurred in Detroit in 1851. The family is of Scotch origin. His grandfather, Hamilton Johnston, was a native of Scotland, and his father, J. W. Johnston, was there born in 1814. The latter crossed the briny deep to America in 1844, and is now a resident of Ferrysburg. He here located in 1864, and established the Johnston Boiler Works, one of the leading industries of the place. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ann Bauld, is a native of Paisley, Scotland.

The gentleman whose name heads this record is the eldest of three children. He spent his boyhood in Detroit and acquired his education in its common schools. At the age of thirteen he accompanied his parents to Ferrysburg, and here learned the trade of boiler-making. He has a practical knowledge of the business in all its departments and details and is therefore well qualified to superintend the works. In the fall of 1880, he and his brother succeeded their father in the control of the concern, which is now run under the name of Johnston Brothers. In 1884, they established a branch business in Muskegon, which was carried on under the name of the Muskegon Boiler Works, and which was conducted until 1891, when they

sold their plant at that place. In 1892, they established the Johnston Brothers Boiler Works of Chicago, and a brother of our subject, J. B. Johnston, has continued in charge of the Chicago plant, which is located on Mather Street, between Clinton and Canal Streets.

In 1876, Mr. Johnston was joined in marriage with Miss Nora B. Eames, of Ferrysburg, daughter of B. F. Eames, one of the early settlers of this place. Their union has been blessed with a family of four children, three sons and a daughter, namely: J. F., Robert E., Nellie V. and James H. The parents are people of sterling worth, who hold an enviable position in social circles. Mr. Johnston is a stalwart Republican in politics, and is a member of Spring Lake Lodge No. 234, A. F. & A. M.; Corinthian Chapter No. 84, R. A. M.; and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In connection with his other interests, Mr. Johnston is also a stockholder in the Grand Haven Leather Company. He assumed full control of the Boiler Works of Ferrysburg, and later, by purchase, became sole proprietor of the same. The plant is 270x200 feet, and employment is furnished to about fifty men. A very superior quality of boilers is manufactured, largely for marine and stationary engines, and the trade extends throughout the United States. Mr. Johnston has built up a most excellent business, which has constantly increased from the beginning and is yet growing. He is a man of good business ability, enterprising and sagacious, and by careful management and honorable dealing he has won the success which now crowns his efforts. His works are among the leading concerns of Ferrysburg, and he is recognized as one of the most prominent business men.



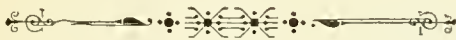
**C**ORNELIUS J. DE ROO is the very efficient Secretary and manager of the Walsh-De Roo Milling Company, of Holland, Mich. Mr. DeRoo was born in this county March 19, 1855, and was named for his father, who came to this

country from his native land, Holland, about 1847, his birth having occurred in 1834. He settled almost immediately in Holland Township, where he at once turned his attention to milling, erecting the first mill that was ever put up in that section, about three miles east of Holland, in 1852. He lived only a short time thereafter, his death occurring on the 2d of September, 1855. He was married to Elizabeth Vandermeulen, a daughter of Rev. Cornelius Vandermeulen, who was the leader of the Holland colonists who settled and founded Zeeland. Mrs. De Roo was born in Holland, and was married to Mr. De Roo in 1854, her death occurring in 1871.

The subject of this sketch was the only child born to his parents, and after the death of his father he went to live with his maternal grandfather at Grand Rapids, Mich. There he received a good, practical education in the public schools, and after finishing at the High School he entered the Business College of Grand Rapids, from which he graduated. He later became a book-keeper for a firm of that city, but when he attained to the age of twenty-four years he went to Zeeland and engaged in milling in partnership with H. Keppel, the firm name being Keppel & De Roo. He remained at that place until 1882, since which time he has been a resident of Holland, and soon after coming here organized the Walsh-De Roo Milling Company for the building of the mill, of which he is Secretary and manager, it being the first roller-mill erected within a radius of one hundred miles of this city. The positions he occupies have been filled with great credit to himself, and he has clearly demonstrated that he is a man of sound intelligence and correct principles. The officers are: Isaac Cappon, President, and H. Walsh, Vice-President. The capacity of the mill is four hundred barrels per day and two carloads of feed and meal, and the capital stock of the concern amounts to \$66,000. Mr. De Roo is the Secretary of the Holland & Chicago Transportation Company, which was organized in the fall of 1892, and which is running a daily line of steamers between Chicago and Holland. The liners consist of the propellers "City of Holland" and "Saugatuck," which are well equipped and fitted up with electric

lights, etc. He is also a Director of the First State Bank of Holland. Politically, he has always been a Republican, and has served in the capacity of Mayor of Holland. He has been Alderman for two terms, a member of the Board of Education for three terms, and is now a member of the Board of Public Works, to all of which organizations he has proven an acquisition. He is a member of the Holland Improvement Association, and has in numerous other ways manifested a deep interest in the welfare of the place.

In 1879 Mr. De Roo was married to Miss Sarah Van Driele, a daughter of Frank Van Driele, a dealer in flour, feed and grain at Grand Rapids, and their union has resulted in the birth of five children, of whom two are living, Margaret and Cornelius P. He and his wife are church members, and are people of high standing in Holland and move in the best social circles.



**T**RUMAN OATMAN, a successful and highly respected general agriculturist, pleasantly located upon section I, Holton Township, Muskegon County, Mich., has been a resident of the Wolverine State for over twenty-nine years, and during this time has been closely identified with the growth and development of the vital interests of his present locality. Our subject, born in Ontario, Canada, in 1845, was the son of Darius and Sarah (McCallum) Oatman. The ancestors of the family were of Scotch nativity, and both the maternal and paternal forefathers were the descendants of a long line of earnest, hard-working and intelligent people. The paternal grandfather, Darius Oatman, was long a well-known and influential resident of the Empire State, but finally emigrated with his wife, sons and daughters to Canada, where he continued in the occupation of his lifetime, farming, until his death. He was a man of strong character and high principle, and was esteemed by all who knew him for his excellent qualities as a friend, neighbor and citizen.

During the War of 1812, he took an active part and bravely aided in the defense of his home and State. The children who clustered about his hearth were eight in number, five brothers and three sisters, who, each trained in habits of industrious self-reliance, arrived at adult age well fitted to assume the responsibilities of life.

The father of our subject, born in the old New York homestead, spent the early days of childhood in his birthplace, and when a little lad attended the nearest school of the home district. When twelve years of age he removed with his parents to Canada, where he yet survives, a hale and hearty man. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Ontario, and possessing both enterprise and ability made his upward way. He married young, and to him and his faithful companion and loving wife were born seven children. Elvira, the eldest, married John Davidson; our subject was the second in order of birth; then follow Norman; Nelson; Frank; "Aug;" and Amelia, wife of Peter Johnson. The father owns a fine farm of two hundred and fifty acres, highly cultivated and improved with substantial buildings. The mother passed away in 1892, after an uneventful career of usefulness. She was a Christian woman, whose work for others ennobled her own life. Truman Oatman remained with his parents until his marriage, in 1864, with Miss Geraldine Bunce, a daughter of William and Amanda Bunce, well-known and prosperous residents of Michigan.

Immediately succeeding their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Oatman settled in Berlin, near Grand Rapids, where our subject rented land and entered with energy into agricultural pursuits. Later buying his present valuable homestead on time, Mr. Oatman removed thither with his family and toiled unceasingly, engaging in a variety of work in order to pay for the land, since his constant home. Of the eighty acres which comprise the home farm sixty are under a profitable state of cultivation and annually yield an abundant harvest. Four children have blessed the union, all daughters, Lida, Jennie, Mabel and Maude, and each has enjoyed the advantages of excellent schooling in the immediate neighborhood. Although never a politician in any sense of the word, our subject takes



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*Geo. D. Sanford*

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an active interest in the management of local and National affairs, and, a Democrat in sentiment, is an ardent advocate of "the Party of the People," and in all matters of mutual welfare may be relied upon to do his full share as one of the substantial men and public-spirited citizens of Muskegon County.



**G**EORGE D. SANFORD, ex-Postmaster of Grand Haven, is numbered among the prominent and popular business men of this enterprising city. He is still a comparatively young man, and with a clear record in the past, bids fair to have a bright one in the future. He was born on the 7th of January, 1843, in Kent, Portage County, Ohio, where he attended school in his earlier years, afterward entering the High School at Akron. He removed with his parents to Watertown, Wis., and in 1859, when sixteen years of age, came with them to Grand Haven, where he has made his home for over thirty years. May 1, 1873, he married Miss Frances Stoner, daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Webb) Stoner. Six children have been born unto them, of whom two sons and two daughters are living.

In 1860 Mr. Sanford started in business for himself, buying out the news stand of George D. Harvey, for which he paid \$50. During the first week he took in \$12 of counterfeit money, but that was sufficient experience for him in that line, and the men who can pass a spurious article on him to-day are scarce. During war times he did a lively business in newspapers, and when his supply was exhausted and he was unable to furnish his customers, he would mount a store box and read the news to the assembled crowd.

In 1865 our subject first entered the political arena as candidate for Clerk of the Township of Grand Haven, which then included the village in its jurisdiction, and was elected over his competitor, Henry Brouwer, who had never before been beaten when a candidate. Since then Mr. Sanford

has served ten terms upon the Board of Supervisors of Ottawa County, and in 1882 came within one vote of receiving the nomination for State Senator, and would probably have received it, had he not withdrawn in favor of John Roost, of Holland. He also served as a member of the Board of Education for nine years, and was President of that body. He is a member of five secret orders, in two of which he holds high and responsible offices.

Mr. Sanford received his appointment as Postmaster under Cleveland August 15, 1885, and was confirmed February 8, 1886. During the term of his office, he could always be found in his proper place, and employing an efficient corps of clerks, the service was above criticism, he making the most popular Postmaster that has ever served the people of Grand Haven. November 17, 1889, he resigned from the post-office, which he had conducted for over four years. He made a most acceptable officer and enjoys the cordial respect and good-will of all parties.

Our subject has always been a staunch Democrat, and served several years as a member of the State Central Committee of that party. He is a genial, popular gentleman, has a pleasant family, and is a model and successful man of affairs, and has by a life of strict integrity and faithful attention to business won the confidence of all who know him.



**S**HERMAN H. BOYCE. The credit for a large share of the enterprise which helps to make Grand Haven one of the most thriving and bustling cities of western Michigan belongs in a considerable degree to such stirring, energetic business men as Sherman H. Boyce. He is a public-spirited man in the broadest sense of the word, and his name for many years has been synonymous with honesty and good judgment. For many years he was engaged in the lumber business in Grand Haven, but is now

retired from the active duties of life, and with his estimable companion has a very pleasant home on Franklin Street, this city. Mr. Boyce was born in the State of New York, Dutchess County, February 19, 1832, and his father, John M. Boyce, was also a native of that county, born in the year 1780. The elder Mr. Boyce was of English origin, and followed the occupation of a farmer in his native State all his life. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Schofield, was a native of Connecticut and the daughter of Jacob Schofield. Seven children were born to this worthy couple, four sons and three daughters, and our subject was the third in order of birth. Only one child besides our subject is now living, Harvey, who makes his home in Chenango, N. Y.

The subject of this brief memoir remained in his native county and received his education in the schools of the same up to the time when he was eleven years of age. He then came with his sister, Mrs. Divine, to Michigan, and settled with her in Montcalm County, where he made his home until he had reached his twentieth year. From there he went to Grand Rapids, Kent County, Mich., and resided there until the fall of 1867, when he made his first appearance in Grand Haven. This city has been his home since. He became connected with the lumber industry, engaging in the business with C. L. Storrs, under the firm name of C. L. Storrs & Co., and manufacturing pine lumber. That business continued until 1871. In 1873 Mr. Boyce became associated with Dr. Steven Monroe in the manufacture of lumber, under the firm name of Monroe, Boyce & Co., and they carried on their business at Spring Lake, where the firm is still carrying on operations.

Mr. Boyce is a stockholder and Director in the National Bank of Grand Haven, and he is also a Director and stockholder in the Grand Haven Furniture Company, located at Grand Haven. Aside from this, he is a Director and stockholder in the Globe Match Company, in that city. He is a most useful and progressive citizen, whose business has ever been conducted upon the broadest basis of equity, and those who engaged in business relations with him could rest assured that their interests would be most carefully guarded. The

principles of the Democratic party have always commended themselves to his judgment, and he supports them whenever called upon to do so like the consistent and straightforward man that he is. Socially, he is a member of Grand Rapids Lodge No. 34, A. F. & A. M., and has reached the degree of Knight Templar. He is very active in lodge affairs. He built his fine residence, and this is presided over by his capable wife, who was formerly Miss Mary Holbrook, of Grand Haven, to whom he was united in marriage April 10, 1881. She is the daughter of J. Holbrook, a worthy citizen of Grand Haven.



**A**REND JOHN NYLAND affords in his life and its success another evidence that industry, economy and integrity constitute the keynote to honorable competency. He is now the President of the Grand Haven Leather Company, of Grand Haven, Mich., of the details of which business he has a thorough and very practical knowledge, and this, combined with his own rigid sense of right and wrong, and his earnest desire to do as he would be done by, has made his name a synonym for all that is upright and honorable. He is a native of Holland, where his birth occurred on the 9th of October, 1828, he being the youngest of four children born to the marriage of John D. Nyland and Angeline Bovink, whose lives were spent in the Old Country, and who were well known and highly honored in their own immediate neighborhood.

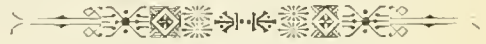
A. J. Nyland acquired a good common education in the schools of the Fatherland, and being a young man who thought for himself, he became deeply impressed with the numerous opportunities to rise in the world offered by the United States to young men of push and enterprise, and in this country he determined to carve out a home for himself. At the age of eighteen years he came to this country, and after a short time spent in the city of New York he removed to Buffalo, where

he put his hands to any honorable work which he found to do until he secured employment in a tannery, where he learned all the intricacies of the leather business, and where his intelligence and energy soon brought him to the notice of the proprietors and secured for him good wages. At the end of seven years, or in 1854, he came West to Michigan, and for one year thereafter he was a resident of Kalamazoo. With a view to bettering his prospects he removed to Breedsville, Mich., where he worked for two years at his trade, at the end of which time he went to Holland, Mich., in the vicinity of which place he followed farming for four years, and although unfamiliar with the work made a reasonable success of it. From Holland he removed to Grand Haven, where he acted in the capacity of superintendent of a tannery for eighteen months, his superintendency only terminating by the burning of the building in which he was employed. He then engaged in business on his own account in Grand Rapids, Mich., for eighteen months, when that building was also burned. This entailed quite a heavy loss, as the building and contents were not insured, and threw him out of employment for a time, but it was not long before he was following the same line of work in an establishment at Milwaukee, Wis., owned by Herman Zohrlant, with whom he remained in friendly relations for seven years.

When this time had expired Mr. Nyland returned to Holland, Mich., and became Superintendent for Cappon & Bertsch, the proprietors of an extensive tannery, fourteen years being profitably spent in this service. Since that time he has been a resident of Grand Haven, having previously purchased an interest in the Grand Haven Leather Company, which is one of the solidly established institutions of the place, and of which he has been President for some time. Success has attended him as a business man, the result of his untiring energy, diligent application and strict integrity. To the coming generation and to those already embarked in business life his example is most worthy of imitation. He was married in 1851 to Miss Dena Schowenaar, of Buffalo, N. Y., by whom he became the father of eleven children, seven of whom are living: Nellie, wife of C. Lau-

daal; Jennie D., Cornelius C., Henry, Arend J., Martha M. and Herman Z. Four children, two sons and two daughters, are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Nyland are members of the Dutch Reformed Church and are highly respected by all the citizens of Grand Haven. They have a good residence, comfortably and tastefully furnished, and their home has come to be recognized as one of great hospitality. Politically, Mr. Nyland is a Republican, and his sketch may appropriately be closed by saying he is an honest man, a good citizen and an honor to his native country, as well as to the land of his adoption. He has held positions of trust, being at one time Alderman while a resident of Holland. His sons, following in his footsteps, have the confidence of the public, and C. C. served as Alderman in Grand Haven, while Herman is an Alderman at present.



**E**NOS BOYER, the courteous and energetic shipping clerk of the mechanical department of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad, at Muskegon, Mich., has for years been identified with the social and business interests of his present locality, and, transacting the various duties of his responsible position with able fidelity, possesses the confidence of the officers of the railroad and has gained the esteem of the general public. Mr. Boyer is a native of Ohio and was born in Ashland County May 6, 1844. His father, John Boyer, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Huntingdon County in 1804, and reared and educated within the borders of the Quaker State, attained to manhood enterprising and self-reliant. Early removing to the Buckeye State, he became one of the pioneer settlers of Ashland County, and there, rearing to honored usefulness his family, survived to reach his eighty-fifth year, and after a life of energetic industry passed away in Williams County, Ohio. During his residence of about a half-century within the boundaries of the State of Ohio, the father witnessed the wonderful develop-

ment which transformed the once wilderness into flourishing farms and smiling villages.

The Boyers are of German ancestry, their sturdy forefathers crossing the Atlantic and settling in Pennsylvania in a very early day in the history of our country. The mother, Margaret (Schantz) Boyer, was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., but like her husband was the descendant of worthy German ancestors, who bequeathed to their children and children's children the habits of prudent thrift and earnest effort which have gained them prosperity and useful influence. Our subject at the age of two years removed with his parents from his birthplace to Williams County, where he attended school and began the work of life upon his father's farm. John Boyer was by trade a blacksmith, and with this occupation profitably combined the tilling of the soil. Enos, thoroughly trained in agricultural pursuits, became a practical farmer, and until twenty-two years of age aided in the conduct and work of the old homestead. Leaving the farm in 1866, he then ran a sawmill and engaged successfully in this business for six years. At the expiration of this length of time our subject again returned to the life of a farmer, and, cultivating the acres of the old home, continued in the peaceful vocation for a number of years. In 1886 Mr. Boyer removed to Michigan, and, locating in Muskegon, for four years worked for his brother, William Boyer.

In 1890 our subject embarked upon his own account in the grocery business, which he conducted successfully for two years, and then, selling out, accepted his present excellent position, in which he has full control of the shipping department. In 1869 Enos Boyer and Miss Mary A. Mills, of Williams County, Ohio, and daughter of William Mills, likewise a native of Ohio, were united in marriage. The paternal grandparents of the estimable wife of our subject were numbered among the pioneers of the Buckeye State and, widely known, were held in high esteem. Mr. and Mrs. Boyer are the parents of two sons, Walter H. and Charles Isaac. Our subject and his devoted wife are both valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are active in religious and benevolent work. Their pleasant home is located

upon the corner of Jackson and Prospect Streets. Our subject is fraternally associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and is a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 133. In political affiliation a staunch Prohibitionist, Mr. Boyer gives his earnest influence in behalf of the betterment of his fellow-men, and without being himself troubled with political aspirations is well posted in local and national affairs. A man of business ability and upright character, he has won his upward way and fully possesses the high regard of the entire community by whom he is surrounded.



**M**ARK B. COVELL, a prominent citizen and enterprising lumberman of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., has long been intimately associated with the progressive interests of his present locality, and is widely known as a public-spirited citizen and thorough business man. Our subject was born in Ridgebury, Bradford County, Pa., June 26, 1849, and was the tenth of the twelve children born unto Calvin T. and Elizabeth (Coleman) Covell. The father, also a native of New York State, was the son of James Covell, who had seen service in the War of 1812. He took part in the battle of Plattsburgh, and moved from New York to Pennsylvania when he was Captain of the militia. The paternal great-grandfather, Jonathan Covell, was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and transferred to his son James a tract of land which he had purchased. The wife of Jonathan was of Dutch descent. James married a Spanish lady, Rebecca Peirce. The early members of the family were farmers, and possessed only moderate means, but were among the most loyal and highly respected citizens of the United States. The immediate ancestors mostly lived and died in Pennsylvania, where the father of our subject passed away in 1879.

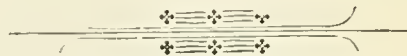
The record of the mother's family is very limited. Elizabeth Coleman was undoubtedly born

in the State of New York, and there received her primary education. She died in Pennsylvania in 1857. The late A. J. Covell, brother of Mark B., went to White Lake, western Michigan, in 1857, and since the name of Covell has been a familiar one up and down the lumber camps of that part of the State. The other brothers, joining A. J., also labored industriously among the pneries, where they arrived sturdy, determined young men, with but little or no capital, and solely with resolution, perseverance and their excellent business ability, soon laid the foundations of the competence which each gained the following years. Andrew J. Covell, the eldest of the family, settling at White Lake, now Whitehall, died in 1885, leaving a fortune. Lyman Covell, identified with the lumber interests of Whitehall from the early '60s, is now, and has been since he first engaged in the business, the partner of Hon. H. E. Staples, who married a sister of the Covells. Lyman, probably the wealthiest of the brothers, is a man of enterprise, identified with every progressive interest of his locality. D. W. Covell, a farmer near Whitehall, is highly esteemed.

Charles E. and Mark B. are partners in business. Augusta M. Covell became the wife of John C. Lewis, the lumbermen's banker and capitalist of Whitehall. Rebecca is the wife of the Hon. H. E. Staples. These four brothers and two sisters are the only survivors of the twelve children who once gathered about the family hearth. Our subject spent his early life upon his father's farm in Pennsylvania, and received but a common-school education. At twenty-one years of age he came West, located in Michigan, and for five years worked for the firm of Staples & Covell. At the expiration of that time he engaged in the grocery business in company with T. Bennett, under the firm name of T. Bennett & Co. For ten years the partnership continued prosperously, Mr. Covell also investing in lumber and owning and operating a line of boats between Whitehall and Chicago. In 1890, he disposed of his former interests, and in 1891 bought from the heirs the business of his late brother, Andrew J., and is now head of the large mills, and has an interest in a shingle-mill and various manufacturing plants of Whitehall.

Our subject has been uniformly successful in all his business undertakings, and the Covell brothers, whose estate places them among the large capitalists of Muskegon County, are also widely known for their sterling integrity and upright dealings with customers and employes.

Mr. Covell has been twice married. He was first married in 1875 to Miss Mary Byhra, a lady of Norwegian parentage. She died in 1891, leaving no issue. In the winter of 1893, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary Wilson, a native of Scotland, who came to Whitehall with her parents when two years of age. Fraternally, Mr. Covell is a valued member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and politically has been a life-long Republican, and a descendant of an old Whig family. For the past eighteen years he has with fidelity discharged the duties of Treasurer of Whitehall, and in all matters pertaining to the general welfare is a liberal-spirited and progressive citizen.



**H**ON. CHARLES K. HOYT, the present Representative of the Second District in the State Legislature, and a prominent business man of Hudsonville, has contributed as largely to the progress of Ottawa County along the lines of material and moral development as any other citizen now residing here. An excellent financier, shrewd business man and progressive citizen, he has, while still a young man, achieved a large measure of success, and has gained a position of distinction in this portion of the State. He traces his ancestry to England, whence in an early day members of the family emigrated to America. His grandfather, Keeler Hoyt, was a brave soldier in the War of 1812, and was, during the larger part of his career, a resident of New York.

The father of our subject, Nelson Hoyt, was a native of Manlius, N. Y., born January 16, 1820, and in the Empire State he married Miss Elizabeth,

daughter of Peter Barber, both of whom were born near Baldwinsville. After their marriage the parents of our subject came to Michigan and settled in Waterloo Township, Jackson County, where the father still resides, being now among the oldest surviving settlers of his community. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died August 4, 1863, and he afterwards married again, becoming by the latter union the father of one child, Seaborn. In politics a staunch Republican, he was the occupant of a number of township offices and served with fidelity in the various offices to which he was elected. He was a liberal contributor to religious enterprises, and his wife, our subject's mother, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject is one of six children, four of whom are now living. They are, Albine L., who married Fannie Finch, by whom he has become the father of five children; Rev. Peter B., who married Leora Hall, and resides in Commerce, Oakland County, Mich.; Charles K.; and Harry H., of Lawton, who married Eva R., daughter of John N. Waite, of whom see sketch elsewhere in this volume. Harry H. and his wife are the parents of three children. The next to the youngest of the family is the subject of this sketch, who was born in Waterloo Township, Jackson County, Mich., June 18, 1859. He was reared on a farm, and was educated in the common schools of Waterloo Township, where he fitted himself for the profession of a teacher. He was thus engaged in Jackson County in the winter of 1875-76, and in Hanley, Ottawa County, for two years, and later in Hudsonville for two and one-half years.

From this place Mr. Hoyt went to Pierson, Montcalm County, where he was employed as book-keeper for F. F. Taylor, a lumber and dry-goods merchant of that place. In 1885 he returned to Hudsonville, where he embarked in business for himself, opening a store and filling it with a complete stock of groceries, dry goods and notions. He still conducts this establishment, although he no longer gives his personal supervision to the details of its management. A Republican in political belief, he has for years been prominent in politics and has frequently served as a delegate

to county and State conventions. For four years he filled the position of Clerk of Georgetown Township, and during the administration of President Harrison he served as Postmaster at Hudsonville, resigning that position in order to accept the nomination to the Legislature.

In 1892 Mr. Hoyt was the Republican candidate for the position of Representative of the Second District, and, being elected to that responsible office, assumed the duties of the place on the 4th of January, 1893. He has served as Chairman of the Committee on Towns and Counties, as a member of the Committee on Insurance, and as a member of the Committee on the Northern Asylum for the Insane, located at Traverse City; he was also on the Committee of Escort from the Legislature to the funeral of the Hon. Mr. Leavitt, of Oceana County. He has been prominent in fighting the saloon legislation and has worked ardently against increase of salaries, as well as for all measures beneficial to farming interests. He was elected for a period of two years and is still filling the position, rendering satisfactory service on behalf of his constituents.

The marriage of Mr. Hoyt occurred November 18, 1880, and united him with Esther M., daughter of William H. and Anna (Barber) McEachron, natives of New York and early settlers of Georgetown Township, Ottawa County. Later they resided in Jamestown Township, and at the present time (1893) they make their home in Hudsonville. They have been the parents of seven children, of whom five are now living. Their daughter Esther M. was born in New York March 19, 1863, and was educated in this State, having formerly been a teacher in Ottawa County. Her parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and her father was Trustee of the church at Hanley, but she affiliates with the Congregationalists, and is an active worker in that denomination, to which Mr. Hoyt also belongs. Both are prominent workers in the Sunday-school, and he has officiated as Trustee in the church. They have a family of four children, Birney G., Ralph L., Harold R. and an infant unnamed.

From his youth Mr. Hoyt has maintained a deep interest in the cause of education, and he has



been a member of the School Board ever since becoming a resident of Hudsonville. The schools of this place compare favorably with those in larger towns, and an excellent system of grading has been introduced through his efforts, assisted by others. In his social connections he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has filled all the chairs in the lodge here, which he has also represented in the Grand Lodge. He is a member of the Order of Maccabees, and is at present officiating as Sir Knight Commander, being the first occupant of that position in the order in Hudsonville.



**S**AMUEL H. STEVENS, Postmaster and insurance agent of Muskegon, was born in Rochester, N. Y., March 4, 1831, and is of English descent, the family having been founded in America by ancestors who came from England. His grandfather was Artemus Stevens, and his parents were Samuel and Frances Miranda (Hoyt) Stevens, natives of Massachusetts.

The subject of this sketch spent the first twelve years of his life in Batavia, N. Y., and then emigrated Westward to Waukegan, Ill., where he grew to manhood and acquired his education. He worked on the home farm until fifteen years of age, when his services as a farm laborer ceased and he was employed in mercantile pursuits. In 1856 he came to Muskegon and engaged in the drug business. The following year he became a partner of Judge Wylee, under the firm name of Wylee & Stevens, proprietors of a general merchandise establishment, which they conducted together until 1861, when the firm retired from business.

The same year Mr. Stevens was united in marriage with Miss Laura S. Boyce, of Detroit, Mich., a daughter of Thomas Boyce. Their union was blessed with a family of five children, three sons and two daughters: Kate F., wife of Arthur Sanford, of Muskegon; William H., who is clerk-

ing in the postoffice; and Grace L., who is still with her parents. Harrison J. and Edmost S. are deceased.

In 1862 Mr. Stevens formed a partnership with Ira Smith in the mercantile business. At the expiration of six years, Mr. Stevens purchased his partner's interest, and devoted his time and attention to his business for nine years. His next venture was in an entirely different line. He opened an insurance office and became agent for both fire and life companies; and this business he has since successfully carried on. In 1891 he was appointed Postmaster of Muskegon by President Harrison, and is now the incumbent of that office. In all his business dealings he has been honorable and upright, and has therefore won universal confidence and regard.

In politics, Mr. Stevens is a Republican and an inflexible adherent of the party with which he has been identified since its organization. Socially, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge, and also holds membership with Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M. He has been connected with the interests and growth of Muskegon for thirty-six years, has been prominent in all public affairs that are calculated to promote the general welfare, and is recognized as one of the leading and valued citizens.



**J**ACOB BAUKNECHT, a prominent business man and well-known wholesale dealer in wood, coal and shingles, Muskegon, Mich., has for the past twenty-seven years been intimately associated with the leading interests of his present locality, and enjoys a wide acquaintance and the sincere respect of many friends. Born in Germany in 1845, our subject was the descendant of a long line of sturdy ancestors, who, through industrious thrift, steadily won their way upward to positions of useful influence. His father, John Bauknecht, a cooper by trade, reared, educated and married in his native land, was a

man of sterling integrity and upright character, and died in Germany. Our subject's mother married again and came with her husband to try their fortunes beyond the sea, that through the broader opportunities offered by a republican Government their children might rise in the world. Jacob was but three years of age when, crossing the Atlantic, he emigrated with his mother to America. Landing in New York City, the family proceeded on their way to Albany, where the stepfather and mother permanently located, and there Mr. Bauknecht received his education in the public schools of the city and later worked diligently in a stove foundry.

Until the year 1861 our subject pursued the even tenor of his way in Albany, but when the war broke out, answering to the call of the Government, he enlisted in Company D, Forty-third New York Infantry, commanded by Col. Vinton, and, assigned to the Army of the Potomac, courageously participated in the following decisive engagements: Gettysburg, Antietam, Marye Heights, and the Seven-Days' Battle. In November, 1863, he was taken prisoner near Warrenton, Va., and was incarcerated in Libby Prison and upon Belle Isle until March 22, 1864, when, having undergone most terrible privations and sufferings, our subject was exchanged and went to Annapolis to recuperate. Immediately upon the partial recovery of his strength, he nobly returned to the service, and was sent to re-enforce Gen. Burnside in a three-days' fight at Cold Harbor, after which he returned to his own regiment at Petersburg. In the fall of 1864, mustered out, Mr. Bauknecht returned to his Albany home, and in the spring of 1866 journeyed to the farther West and settled in Muskegon. A man of clear judgment, he saw his opportunities in the leading interest of the State, lumbering, and for eighteen continuous years ran a sawmill with excellent results. In 1881 he embarked in his present flourishing business, profitably selling wood, coal and shingles at wholesale, and in a comparatively brief time building up a business which in its extent is second to no other in this locality.

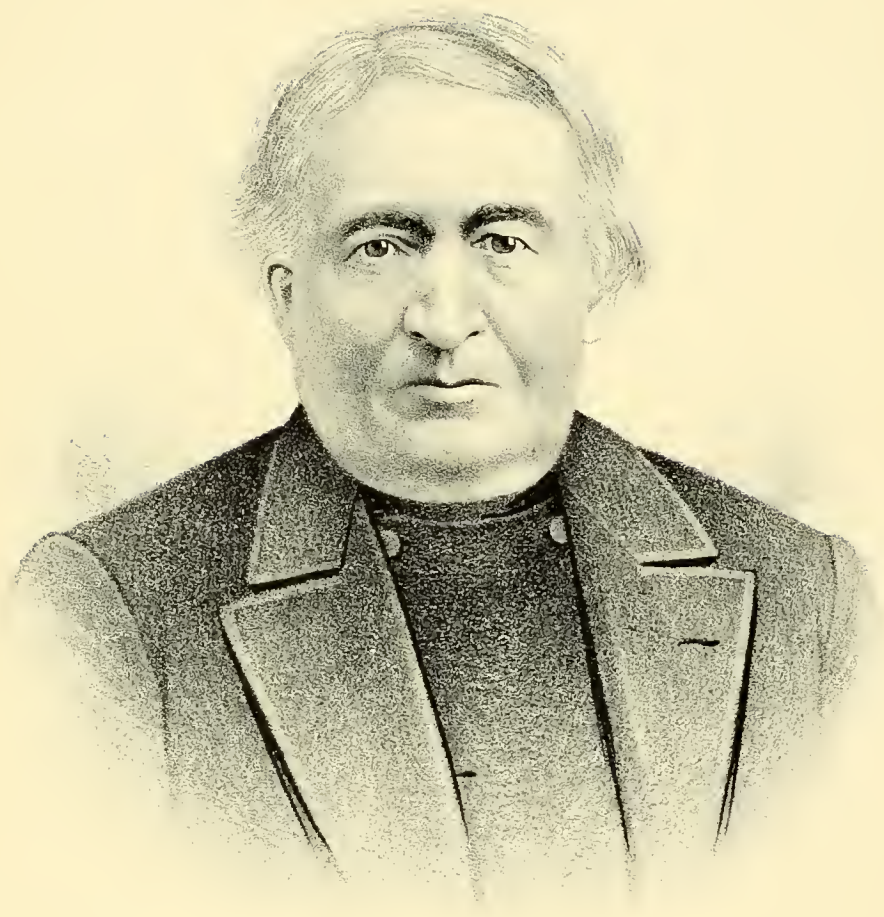
In the month of April, 1871, were united in marriage Jacob Bauknecht and Miss Annie Jesson,

who was born in Sweden and is a lady of worth and superior ability. Our subject and his estimable wife have been blessed by the birth of three sons and two daughters, who with their cheerful presence brightened the pleasant home on the corner of Houston and Seventh Streets. Henry A. is the eldest-born; then follow in order of birth Celia A., Jesse G., Paul Edward and Dora Belle. These brothers and sisters will all have the benefit of excellent educational advantages and be given every opportunity to fit themselves for any position of trust to which they may be called. Mr. Bauknecht is a member of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R., and is fraternally associated with Muskegon Lodge No. 133, A. O. U. W. He takes an active interest in all matters of public welfare and is intelligently posted on the vital issues of the day.



**J**OHIN P. NABER, a prominent agriculturist, and a courageous veteran of the late Civil War, has for years been School Moderator in the district of his home locality, section 31, Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich. Born in the Netherlands March 19, 1841, our subject was the son of Peter and Catherine Naber. The father, whose birthday was April 15, 1810, was likewise born in the Netherlands, but now makes his home in Holland Township, section 35. The paternal grandparents, honest, hard-working people, were John and Cora (Vanderskher) Naber. The parents of our subject, accompanied by their family and a brother of the father, set sail for the United States March 5, 1848, and were forty-two days making the voyage. Landing in New York City they proceeded by canal boat to Buffalo. From the latter city they journeyed to Chicago by boat, and thence came to Holland, Mich., where the father's \$200 were soon exhausted, as he purchased forty-five acres of land at \$3 per acre, and was obliged to at once lay in a stock of groceries and

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JOHANNES G. VAN HEES

provisions for the use of his family, who lived with their neighbors until their little house was built. The children of the parents were Cora, John P., Jakobena, Peter and Mary. The father, a devout member of the Reformed Church, was for ten years a Deacon at Holland and for ten years held the same sacred office in the Ebenezer Church. Politically, he is a Republican and a thoroughly loyal citizen.

Only seven years of age when he came to America, our subject received but little schooling in the Old Country, and never had much opportunity to gain an education. He worked on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age, then enlisted in 1862 in Company I, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, and, engaged in the Army of the Cumberland, fought at Tibb's Bend and actively participated in every battle fought under Sherman until they reached Atlanta. Later he took part in the engagement at Nashville, and although in the midst of seventeen fierce encounters was never wounded nor taken prisoner, neither was he absent from his regiment one day. Receiving his honorable discharge in North Carolina, Mr. Naber was mustered out of the Government service in Jackson, Mich. Returning home, he again resumed the clearing of the land, and now owns one hundred and twenty-five valuable acres, one of the most finely cultivated farms and substantially improved homesteads in the locality. Our subject is a thoroughly practical farmer, trained from his early childhood to the tilling of the soil; he also understands the culture of vegetables and fruit, and has made a success of agricultural pursuits, and upon his extensive homestead has some excellent stock.

John P. Naber and Miss Henrietta Dehaan were united in marriage June 14, 1866. Mrs. Naber is the daughter of John and Chacolena Dehaan, and was born in the Netherlands, as were also her parents, who emigrated to the United States when the estimable wife of our subject was but four years of age. Five children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Naber: Catherine, Edward, Peter, Chacolena and John. Mr. and Mrs. Naber are both devout members of the Reformed Church, of which our subject has been a Deacon for a number of

years. Politically a Republican and an earnest advocate of the party, he has given great satisfaction in his position as School Moderator, and, intimately associated with the progressive interests of the township, is regarded with high respect, and in his wide acquaintance commands the sincere confidence due his sterling integrity and business ability.



**A**LBERTUS G. VAN HEES, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Zeeland Township, Ottawa County, was born in the city of Rotterdam, Holland, April 16, 1838, and is the son of Johannes G. and Neeltje (DeVries) Van Hees. His paternal grandfather, Albert Van Hees, served in the army under the famous Napoleon in 1805, and upon retiring to civic life engaged in business as a paper manufacturer. His death occurred at the age of forty-five years. He was survived for many years by his wife, Anna, who passed from earth in 1851, at the age of eighty-three. She left two children, Johannes G. and Jansje.

The father of our subject was born in Gelderland, Holland, in the city of Arnheim. At the age of sixteen years he removed to Rotterdam, where he married Miss Neeltje DeVries and resided nineteen years. Thence, in company with a colony of fifteen hundred of his compatriots, he came to America. Leaving Holland on the 16th of August, 1847, he landed at Sag Harbor, Long Island, on the 20th of October, 1847. His destination was Pella, Iowa, which had been founded by Rev. H. P. Scholte. He arrived in Chicago November 18, 1847, and, as the season was then far advanced, he remained in that city during the winter. Early in 1848 he started on foot with Jacob Bogards for the Dutch settlements of Michigan, spending two weeks en route. Abandoning his Pella scheme, he located in Zeeland, where he arrived on the 16th of August, 1848, accompanied by his wife, son and father-in-law, the latter eighty years of age.


At once after settling in Zeeland, Johannes G. Van Hees became a leader in the colony, both in political and church circles. He served as Supervisor of the township for twenty-two years and five months, and also served in other important positions. A man of noble powers, great ability, sound common-sense and unusual memory, he was fitted for the prominent position he occupied. He followed the other leaders of his people, Scholte, Van Raalte, C. Van Der Meulen and others, and left the State church and his Fatherland for a free land and a free church. Prior to 1861 he was a Democrat, but afterward affiliated with the Republicans. Possessing the most scrupulous ideas of honor and right, he would not tolerate the least dishonesty in another.

A friend to the public school system, Mr. Van Hees served as a member of the School Board until 1883, when advancing years and enfeebling powers induced him to resign. Respected and honored in life, he was mourned when he died suddenly on the 13th of September, 1891. For many years prior to his decease he made his home on section 19, where he had originally owned forty acres and later was the owner of one hundred acres. A ruling Elder in the church, he was prominent in religious affairs, and was a generous contributor to the cause of Christianity. His wife, who was born April 23, 1803, passed from earth August 13, 1874, at the age of seventy-one. She was a daughter of Gerret DeVries, a native of Rotterdam, Holland, and a grocer and mason by trade. After his wife's death, he came with his daughter to America, in 1847, and died in the spring of 1849, at the age of eighty-three.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and received a liberal education, both in Dutch and English. He made his home with his father until the demise of the latter, and still occupies the old homestead of one hundred acres, where he tills the soil and engages in raising Shropshire sheep and other stock. A Democrat prior to 1860, he has since that time been a Republican and has been elected upon his party ticket to numerous positions of trust. He has frequently served as delegate to State conventions, has been Notary Public for twelve years, and is now Justice of the

Peace. A member of the Reformed Church, he has been a Deacon for fourteen years, and since 1890 has served as Elder.

May 26, 1856, Mr. Van Hees married Francina, daughter of Arie and Jannetje (DeHaan) Van Bree, and a native of South Holland. Mr. Van Bree was a butcher in the Old Country, and served in the Belgian War in 1832. After coming to the United States in 1849, he followed the trade of a butcher for a few years, also engaging in business as a shoemaker. He died in Zeeland, December 7, 1891, at an advanced age, having been born March 13, 1811. His first wife, who was born in 1791, died in July, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Van Hees were the parents of fourteen children, only five of whom survive: John G., of Big Rapids, who is married and has two children, Frances E. and Vera M.; Arie; Nellie, the wife of Dirk Pyl, and the mother of one child, Frances; Albert G. and Anna F., residing at home. Frank died at the age of two years, and Jane F. passed away when a girl of fourteen.



**J**USTUS STILES, the oldest living settler in Polkton Township, who voted at the organization of the township, and was in fact the first settler in town 8, range 14 west, with the exception of the trappers and hunters along the river bank, has been a resident of the State of Michigan almost three-score years, and has been a dweller within the county of Ottawa since 1844. Our subject, a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., was the second of ten children born unto Justus and Aurilla (Clark) Stiles, both natives of New England. The father was born in 1778 in Vermont; the mother's birthplace was Massachusetts. The paternal ancestors were of English birth. The responsibility of the care and training of the younger sons and daughters of the parents devolved mainly upon the son Justus, who, with enterprising and self-reliant effort, assumed the burdens of the day in his early boy-

hood. Nancy L., the eldest of the family, became the wife of George Cane and made her home in Battle Creek; Justus came next; Amos lives in Calhoun; Chauncey S. died in Ottawa County; Richard C. also passed away in Ottawa County; Mary A. is the wife of H. Hall, of Battle Creek; Cynthia, deceased, was the wife of John Dickenson; Alma J. is the wife of Edwin Van Winkle, of Battle Creek; Julia A. married Henry Hall, of Battle Creek; and Harvey C. died young.

Our subject accompanied his parents to Battle Creek in 1835, and they found but one frame house where the city now stands. The father not long after died, leaving to the care of the widow a large family of little ones. In 1841 Mr. Stiles was united in marriage with Miss Ann Streator, and with his wife soon after made his home in Ottawa County. They located upon the identical spot where their first house stood nearly a half-century ago, and there our subject, toiling industriously, cleared the eighty acres of land of heavy timber, and erected a log cabin beside the very stumps of the trees felled for that purpose. At the organization of the township sixteen voted in the first election held at Scranton, now Eastmanville. Mr. Stiles declined to accept many offices of the township which were tendered him, but when he did occasionally permit the use of his name he was invariably elected. He and his excellent wife, sharing in the toils and privations of pioneer life, buried five little ones in infancy and reared to adult age five sons and daughters. The eldest surviving child is E. H., now Postmaster at Coopersville; Josephine is the wife of R. Orson Dodge, of Newaygo; Jane, deceased, was the wife of Edgar Hamilton, of Coopersville; Henry J. lives upon the old home farm; and Hezza is the wife of Harrison Averill, of Ottawa County. Mr. and Mrs. Stiles are both remarkably well preserved, being hale and hearty and enjoying their many daily blessings. Our subject, who is in his seventy-fourth year, has witnessed the many remarkable changes incidental to the life of the frontiersman. Politically, he and his son are strong Democrats and deeply interested in both local and national issues.

Mr. Stiles has until recently taken an active in-

terest in the schools of the county, and is a well-known friend to educational advancement. He gave his children a good common-school education, and his eldest son taught school many years. Our subject, although a man of sterling integrity of character, has never been connected with any church organization or fraternal society. E. H. Stiles, the eldest living son of our subject, was born in Polkton Township in 1849, and, growing up to manhood on his father's farm, assisted in the summer and in the winter attended the district school. When about twenty-two years of age he engaged in teaching school and, continuing for five years a successful instructor, in the mean time attended the Grand Rapids Business College. Until the winter of 1892-1893 he taught continuously, and during the summer months, as in youth, engaged industriously in the pursuit of agriculture. He was married in 1876 to Miss Mary A. Coburn, of Zeeland, and a daughter of Milan Coburn. This excellent and accomplished lady was always delicate, and upon July 2, passed away mourned by all who know her. Mr. Stiles has been active in the local politics of Ottawa County and ably served as Clerk of Polkton Township. In June, 1893, he was commissioned under President Cleveland Postmaster of Coopersville, an office whose duties he is well adapted to discharge to the great satisfaction of his fellow-townsmen. Fraternally, Mr. Stiles is a Knight of Honor, and socially is a popular man, enjoying the high regard of many friends.



**C**ORNELIUS WESTRATE. Many of the most active and enterprising residents of Holland Township are natives of this county and have here spent the greater portion of their lives. In them we find men of true loyalty to the interests of this part of the State, who understand, as it were by instinct, the needs, social and industrial, of this vicinity, and who have a

thorough knowledge of its resources. They are therefore better adapted to succeed here than a stranger could be, and are probably without exception warmly devoted to the prosperity of their native place.

Cornelius Westrate was born in Ottawa County, Zeeland Township, Mich., in 1849, to the union of Marienus and Johanna (Zoutwel) Westrate, both of whom were natives of the Netherlands. The father learned the carpenter's trade in his youth, and was married in the Old Country. There six children were born to his first union. About 1847 he emigrated to the United States with his family, located at Zeeland, Ottawa County, Mich., and there married Miss Zoutwel, who bore him one child, the subject of this sketch. In this township the father bought land, and in connection with farming carried on his trade until 1851, when he was killed by a fall from a house. Of the children born to the first union, the following are now living: Joseph, Nellie, Jane and William. Their mother died in the Old Country. After the death of Mr. Westrate his widow married Matthew Naye, by whom she had one child, Jane Maggie, now the wife of George Lokes.

Until nearly twenty-one years of age our subject remained under the parental roof, and the fundamental principles of education were instilled into his young mind in the common schools. After leaving home he worked out for different farmers in the section for about a year, and was then united in marriage to Miss Henrietta Kloosterman, daughter of John and Fannie (Vink) Kloosterman, natives of Holland. The happy domestic life of our subject has been blessed by the birth of eight children, as follows: Marienus, who married Miss Maggie Depenharst; Fannie, Johannis, John, Minnie, Peter, Albert and William.

At the time of his marriage our subject had little or no means, and the day after his union he began work in a sawmill at Zeeland, receiving \$1.50 per day. He worked for other people until 1875, when he rented a farm for four years. His life of industry and usefulness and his record for integrity and true-hearted faithfulness in all the relations of life have had their effect, and he is now the owner of one hundred acres of land,

with good substantial buildings, all erected by himself. He has the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends, and he and his estimable wife are members of the Holland Reformed Church of Zeeland. In politics he inclines to the platform of the Republican party. Has held the office of Road Commissioner, and for thirteen years was a school officer.



**HON. CHARLES HENRY HACKLEY**, a lumberman of Muskegon, was born January 3, 1837, at Michigan City, Ind. His father, Joseph H. Hackley, was a native of the State of New York, of Welsh descent, and for many years a contractor and railroad builder. His mother, whose maiden name was Salina Fuller, passed her early youth in Ohio, and attained to the age of forty-eight years, dying at Muskegon August 16, 1864. They had five children, three sons and two daughters, of whom our subject was the eldest, and is the only one now living. While quite young, his parents moved to Southport, now Kenosha, Wis., and here Mr. Hackley obtained his education at the district schools.

Arriving at the age of fifteen years, our subject left school and engaged with his father in road-building. At seventeen years of age he had under him a gang of men and had charge of twenty miles of plank road, his duty being to keep it in repair. His time was devoted to hard work in connection with his father's business until the spring of 1856, when he engaged to work his passage to Michigan on the schooner "Challenge." Landing in Muskegon on the morning of April 17, 1856, with only a few dollars in his possession, he went to work at noon on the same day as a common laborer for Durkee, Truesdell & Co., lumber manufacturers, and without asking what remuneration he was to receive. His foreman afterward gave in his time at \$22 per month, which the firm later increased to \$26. In the fall of 1856, when the mill had shut down, he went into the woods for the same company, and there he was employed the following winter, scaling logs,



receiving \$30 per month as wages. The next spring he was made outside foreman and had charge of the men engaged in sorting and piling lumber and clearing the mill.

The fall of 1857 was a disastrous one for the lumber interests, a large number of manufacturers failing, and comparatively little logging was done in the woods in the ensuing winter. Mr. Hackley, through his energy, perseverance and ability, had by this time gained the confidence and esteem of his employers, and they suggested that if he would return to Kenosha and spend the winter at the commercial school at that place, they would pay a portion of his expenses, with the understanding that if he proved competent he was to return the following spring and take charge of their books. This proposition was accepted, but during his absence, the firm of Durkee, Truesdell & Co. went into liquidation and Gideon Truesdell became its successor.

Early in 1858 Mr. Hackley became book-keeper for Mr. Truesdell and also had charge of the shipments of lumber and of the supply store, which he ran in connection with the mill, and he filled this position acceptably, while still receiving only \$30 per month salary, until the spring of 1859. Pomeroy & Holmes, lumber manufacturers, failing at this time, Mr. Hackley, with his father and Mr. Truesdell, purchased the property and organized the firm of J. H. Hackley & Co., under which name the business was successfully conducted for the next two seasons. In 1860 the firm purchased the property known as the "Wing mill," which they continued to operate until 1866, Mr. Hackley assuming charge of the books of the two mills in addition to those of Mr. Truesdell, while he was as well general manager for the latter, who had moved to Chicago.

In 1866 Mr. Hackley purchased Mr. Truesdell's interest in the old Pomeroy & Holmes mill, and with his father and brothers, Edwin and Porter, organized the firm of Hackley & Sons, under which style the business was continued until 1874. In the same year James McGordon purchased the interests of J. H. Hackley and Gideon Truesdell in the old "Wing mill" and went into partnership with our subject, under the firm name of Hackley

& McGordon. In 1873 the Hackley & Sons mill was sold and removed, and a new one erected upon the same site at a cost of \$80,000. The following year J. H. Hackley died, and shortly afterward the mill of Hackley & McGordon was destroyed by fire, with a loss of \$50,000, and an insurance of \$35,000.

Mr. McGordon having on the death of J. H. Hackley purchased an interest in the firm of Hackley & Sons, a new firm was organized, under the name of C. H. Hackley & Co. Edwin Hackley died in 1875, and in 1880 James McGordon died. The latter's interest was bought by Thomas Hume, and the firm again changed its name, adopting that of Hackley & Hume. In 1884 Porter Hackley died, when the entire business became vested in Charles H. Hackley and Thomas Hume, and has since that time been conducted by them under the firm name of Hackley & Hume.

The mill has a capacity of about thirty million feet of lumber and eight million pieces of lath per season and is doing one of the largest businesses on Muskegon Lake, and, in fact in the State of Michigan. Their timber lands are principally in Clare County, from which for many years they cut annually about thirty million feet of lumber and hauled from ten to fifteen million feet for parties owning timber in the same vicinity, all of which is transported over their own logging railroad, fifteen miles in length, to the Muskegon River at Jonesville, Clare County. They are also owners of sailing-vessels, which are employed in carrying their product to Chicago, where their principal market is found. The firm also own large tracts of pine timber lands in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina. They are also interested in the H. C. Akeley Lumber Company, of Minneapolis, Minn., an incorporated company organized in January, 1889. Mr. Hackley is President of the Hackley National Bank, a stockholder of the Lumberman's National Bank of Muskegon, a stockholder of the Muskegon Savings Bank and the Oceana County Savings Bank, situated at Hart, and is also a stockholder in twelve other national banks in various States in the Union. He is Treasurer of the Muskegon Booming Company.

Mr. Hackley succeeded his father in the office of

County Treasurer on the death of the latter in 1874, and in 1877 was elected Alderman of the Fourth Ward of the city, holding that office for two terms. He was elected a member of the Board of Education in 1877 for a term of three years, re-elected in 1880 but declined to serve, and in 1888 he was again elected to the same office, and by re-election has been a member since, and is now President of the Board. May 25, 1888, Mr. Hackley announced to the Board of Education his purpose and desire to place in their hands and in trust forever the sum of \$100,000 for the erection and maintenance of a public library and reading-room in the city of Muskegon. The conditions of the grant were of the most liberal character, in the main being that the library and reading-room should be kept open to the public without charge, and with suitable rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Board. The library is one of circulation as well as reference, and the reading-room is furnished with the best periodical literature of the day. Since the donation was made, Mr. Hackley has for the third time become a member of the Board of Education, this time by a unanimous vote, and has been enabled to give his own counsel in the carrying into execution of the grand trust he has established. In commemoration of the gift, the Board of Education ordained that the 25th of May in each year shall be forever set apart and observed by exercises of a special character, commemorative of the munificence, public spirit and good-will of the donor. Mr. Hackley subsequently made an additional donation of \$25,000, the amount to be devoted to the purchase, after finishing the library building, of books, which further illustrates the philanthropic spirit of the man, and makes the most princely gift known to Michigan, while it adds materially to the value and usefulness of the benefactor.

Before building the library, the Board of Education called for competitive designs from six leading architects of the country, with the result that in August, 1888, the Board selected the plans submitted by Patton & Fisher, architects, of Chicago, Ill. The building is a massive structure of the Romanesque style of architecture, built of pink

syenite granite, with brown-stone trimmings. It is symmetrical and artistic, and has a picturesque door of graceful design in one corner, and a combination of gables, windows, arches and columns which give a rich and impressive appearance. A broad entrance with steps fronts on Webster Avenue, and there is a private entrance on Third Street, near the book-room. From the main entrance a hall opens into the delivery room, 31x50 feet in size, fronting on Webster Avenue. To the left of this room is a reference library, and to the right a spacious reading-room, with ladies' reading-room adjoining, and the librarian's room on the north. The book-room, extending along Third Street and lighted on three sides, is 12x56 feet, and will hold seventy-one thousand five hundred volumes. On the second floor is a spacious room, with smaller and convenient rooms adjoining, suitable for lecture room, art gallery, museum or other purposes. The basement is divided into convenient rooms for storage, heating apparatus, fuel and such purposes as may hereafter be determined. The building is constructed in the most durable and substantial manner, is practically fire-proof, and nothing has been left undone to make it an attractive and convenient building, in every respect adapted to the purpose for which it is used.

Our subject was married October 3, 1864, to Julia E., daughter of Hiram Moore, of Centerville, Allegany County, N. Y. Mr. Hackley possesses in a marked degree those elements of character that insure business success. He is observant, silent, critical, and accurate in judgment, and is gifted with unusual executive ability in the administration of business affairs. His counsel is always sought and made use of in the direction of the many financial and business corporations with which he is connected. In the selection of men to aid him in the conduct of his numerous and important business enterprises, his practical sagacity is exemplified and justified. To such he gives his fullest confidence, and the trust is amply repaid. Affable and courteous in his manners toward all, he is nevertheless unobtrusive and retiring. Fond of domestic life and the society of friends in informal gatherings, he shuns crowds, social or political.

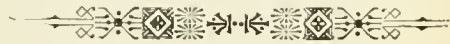
The possessor of a large fortune, acquired by the exercise of his fine intelligence, tact and ingenuity, he has never forgotten the comparative privation of his early life and the hard and bitter struggle of many who have not been able to obtain a comfortable living. The public knows but little of the numberless acts of charity and helpfulness that are due to his heart and hand. They have been done without ostentation, and when known he has discouraged public notice of them. They have been done, however, in no half-hearted or half-handed way, but timely, generously and efficiently. Latterly, however, the hidden and gracious influences that have been molding and determining the real character of the man have impelled him to a rare and munificent act of public benevolence, that of the gift of \$200,000 for library purposes. Thus he has founded a great public benefaction, of which every intelligent person in the community becomes a partaker for all time to come; and while to do good to others by inconspicuous deeds of charity or helpfulness is within the reach of all, the spirit and ability to perform such an act of generosity are a privilege that comes to few.

In 1889 Mr. Hackley purchased an entire block between Third and Fourth Streets and Webster and Clay Avenues; had the residences upon it removed and the ground finely graded, and upon this he erected a magnificent soldiers' monument of Westerley granite, seventy-six feet high, the apex of which is crowned by the Goddess of Liberty in bronze, heroic size. Near the base of the monument, on the four corners, stand the four arms of the military service, represented by heroic bronze statues. The monument and grounds cost \$71,000, the total amount being about \$300,000. In addition, he presented the city with the fine granite school building known as the Hackley Public School, located across from the Soldiers' Monument and diagonally across from the library. This is also a costly and elegant structure. The entire gifts to the city by Mr. Hackley exceed \$300,000.

In 1891 the Central Public School building was burned, having an insurance of only \$30,000. In order to enable the Board to replace

the building, Mr. Hackley submitted a proposition stating that if the city would authorize an issue of \$75,000 bonds, bearing interest at five per cent., to run fifty years, for the erection of a new building, he would take these bonds at par and furnish the money as needed. In addition to this, Mr. Hackley donated the entire issue of the bonds to the public schools, the interest to be devoted to maintaining the current expenses of the Hackley Public Library forever. These propositions were gratefully accepted by the people, and the bonds authorized by city election April 14, 1891. The proposition has all been fulfilled, and the bonds delivered and assigned to the Board of Education, the income from which makes the library self-sustaining.

Mr. Hackley has, almost since its organization, been a member of the Republican party, but is not in any sense an active politician, though his counsels have been sought by the leaders of his party in the State.



**O** E. YATES, M. D. The medical man is held in the greatest esteem by savage as well as civilized people, and deservedly so, because in his hands are so often the issues of life and death. All honor is due the profession of medicine, because it is composed of the noble army of men who devote their lives to curing the ills that flesh is heir to. Among the leading medical practitioners of Ottawa County, Mich., is Dr. O. E. Yates, who is of the regular school of medicine, and has his home in Holland. He was born in Wayne County, Mich., October 12, 1815, a son of John C. Yates, who was born in the State of New York, and was reared near the city of Albany. When a boy of fourteen years, he was a member of the New York State Militia, and went over the ground at Champion Hill shortly after the battle. Several of his relatives were in the War for Independence. He early came to Wayne County, Mich., and soon after his arrival at this place he wooed

and won for his wife Miss Mary E. Stephenson. In 1846 he removed to Calhoun County, Mich., where he purchased a tract of land, on which he resided until his death, having become the father of four children.

The youthful days of our subject were spent in Calhoun County, and there he obtained a practical education in the public schools, and still later finished his studies in Mayhew's Business College, at Albion. For some time following this he taught school, worked on the farm, and his leisure moments were devoted to the study of medicine, for his naturally kind heart turned instinctively to that broad field of human suffering for his life work. In 1867 he went to Cincinnati and entered the Eclectic Medical Institute, from which he was graduated in February, 1869. He soon after located in Plainwell, Mich., where he practiced his profession until August, 1880; he then went to Fillmore, and in 1883 came to Holland, where he has practiced the regular system of medicine with much success, and is already largely patronized.

In 1876 he was married to Miss Gertrude I. Giddings, a grand-niece of Joshua R. Giddings, the great anti-slavery advocate. Mrs. Yates was born in Kalamazoo County, Mich., and has borne her husband three children: Grace W., Amy M. and Avis G. The Doctor has always been a Republican sympathizer and supporter, and by that party was elected Coroner of Ottawa County, and afterward Mayor of the city. He was for five years a member of the Board of Education, is President of the Grand River Valley Medical Society, is a member of the National and State Associations of Railway Surgeons, is Surgeon for the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad, and by appointment is Surgeon for the American Casualty Company.

Our subject and his family attend the Hope Reformed Church, in which they are active workers, and in the social circles of the town of Holland they are held in high esteem. The Doctor's office is located in the McBride Block, and his time is fully occupied with the large practice which his knowledge of his calling, his kind and cordial manners, and his promptness in responding to the calls upon his services among rich and poor alike have

won for him. He is a valuable addition to the city, and by his energy, push and public spirit has done much to make the town of Holland what it now is.



**F**RED HAMLIN CAMPBELL. Among the young men who have gained prominence in Ottawa County, and who through the exercise of perseverance and energy have accumulated a large share of this world's goods, we present the name of Fred H. Campbell. For a number of years engaged at the trade of a blacksmith, he is now following the vocation of agriculture, being the owner and occupant of a highly-cultivated farm in Georgetown Township, where he has made his home for a short time. Possessing a large amount of energy and determination, these qualities, combined with good judgment, have contributed to his success as a farmer.

Born in Iowa, March 5, 1861, our subject is the son of Dennis Campbell, who was born in the State of New York and there spent his early manhood, removing thence to Iowa, where he followed the trade of a carpenter for many years. He resided in New York, where his death occurred in 1891. A man of vigorous intellect and genial manners, he was mourned in death by a large circle of acquaintances, who held him in high regard. Prior to removing to Iowa he had been united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Wilcox, who was born in the Empire State, her father and mother being natives respectively of Pennsylvania and New York.

Of a family of eight children, our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was reared to maturity in Iowa and New York, where he was a student in the graded schools, and, being a diligent pupil, he gained a fair education. In 1882 he came to Michigan and located at Whitneyville, Kent County, where for two years he followed the trade of a blacksmith. Disposing of his interests in that village, he removed to Hudsonville, Ottawa County, where he conducted a blacksmith's shop,

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carrying on an extensive business in that line for eleven years. Upon selling out there, he located, in 1893, upon the farm in Georgetown Township where he has since made his home and where he engages in raising the various cereals.

In 1880 Mr. Campbell and Miss Lizzie, daughter of Tacket Crounger, of Kent County, Mich., were united in marriage, and they are now the parents of three children: Frank, Arthur and Roy. In his political belief, Mr. Campbell is a true-blue Republican, and considers that protection of home industries is the secret of national progress. While he is not identified with any religious organization, he gives his support to the Congregational Church, of which his wife is an active member. Socially, he affiliates with Hudsonville Lodge No. 316, I. O. O. F., and has been an incumbent of all the chairs in his lodge. As a citizen, he occupies a high place in the confidence and esteem of his business associates, as well as of those whom he meets socially.



**H**ENRY KREMERS, M. D. In the learned professions Ottawa County has many noted representatives, and this is particularly so in the field of medical science. In a review of this kind it will be readily understood that only the most conspicuous figures in a representative class can receive special mention. One of the leading members of the learned profession of medicine is Henry Kremers, who is a native of Zeeland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., his birth having occurred on the 15th of July, 1850.

The father of our subject, William Kremers, was born in the Netherlands in 1820, and there received his education. In 1816 he emigrated to the "land of the free," and the following year took up his residence in Ottawa County, Mich., but it was not until 1818 that he entered land of his own and began tilling the soil. The land was at that time a wilderness, but with the utmost

energy and perseverance he succeeded in laying the forest low, bringing his land to a good state of cultivation and otherwise improving it with good buildings. He was married to Miss Annie, a daughter of Lucas Heins, who died in Holland. The widow came to the United States with the family in 1849. Dr. Henry Kremers was one of six children, the others being as follows: Harry, a minister of the Presbyterian Church; Lucas, a farmer in South Dakota; Alice; Jennie, and one that died in infancy. The father of this family lived a useful life, and in 1878 died on the farm where many of his years were spent. Our subject was reared on the old home place in Zeeland Township, Ottawa County, and, like the great majority of farmer boys at that time, his education was such as could be obtained in the common schools of that day. His time when not in school was spent in assisting his father on the farm, and he obtained a thorough knowledge of the details of agriculture. Later he entered college, where he prosecuted his studies for four years. After teaching school for one year, he entered the medical department of the Michigan State University, at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1876. Very shortly afterward he located in the neighborhood of his old home, where he followed his profession for six years. In 1882 he took up his residence in Holland, and here has since pursued his practice with the best success.

In 1877 the Doctor was united in marriage with Alice, a daughter of Ryder Van Zwalawenburg, who was born and reared in Holland, but eventually became a citizen of the United States. The Doctor and his wife have five sons: William, Robert E., Edward S. D., Clarence H., and Ernest. Shortly after locating in Holland our subject formed a partnership with William Z. Bangs in the drug business, which connection continued for about three years. He then bought Mr. Bangs' interest, and has conducted the business alone since that time, John Roost being at the head of the drug department. He owns some valuable business property in the town, and has a handsome residence at the corner of Market and Twelfth Streets. A Democrat politically, he has held the

office of Mayor of Holland and is a member of the Board of Education. He is a Director in the First State Bank and is one of the stockholders in the Holland & Chicago Transportation Company. For some time he has been connected with the Michigan State Medical Association, the American Medical Association and the Grand River Medical Society. He is one of the popular citizens of the place and is a physician of great skill and ability, as is attested by his large general practice.



ISAAC F. HUNTOON, a practical general agriculturist and one of the most extensive fruit-growers of Cedar Creek Township, Muskegon County, Mich., is a lifetime resident of the State, and was born in Ingham County, in the town of Leslie, February 23, 1811. His parents, William and Clarissa (Stone) Huntoon, were natives of the Empire State and New Hampshire, respectively. Married in New York, the father and mother emigrated to Michigan in 1838, and took a prominent place among the pioneer settlers of the Wolverine State. The father, a tiller of the soil, purchased an unimproved farm of one hundred and twenty acres, one hundred acres of which he brought up to a high state of cultivation. In 1867 William Huntoon, after a career of industrious usefulness, passed away lamented by all who knew him. The home of the parents was blessed by the birth of eight children. Ora J. is the wife of Leander Landfair; I. F. is our subject; Lydia B. married William Vickery; Samuel J., who was killed at the Weldon Railroad in Virginia, was a brave soldier and was severely wounded in the first Battle of the Wilderness; Harriet E. is the wife of George Labertaux; James W. lives in Ingham County; and Clarissa married George Gates. The eighth child passed away in infancy. The mother, now arrived at an advanced age, yet survives.

Our subject was educated in the common schools of Ingham County and was reared upon his father's farm. Upon the breaking out of the Civil

War Mr. Huntoon enlisted in Company D, Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry, and, attached to the Army of the Cumberland, served in that command with courage one year. He was later in the Ninth Army Corps, and was engaged in numerous battles. After joining with his regiment the Army of the Tennessee, our subject participated in the siege of Vicksburg, from there proceeded over the Cumberland Mountains to Knoxville, where he took part in the siege of that city, and later engaged in the battle at Campbell Station. Mr. Huntoon also fought with gallantry at Strawberry Plains and afterward went to Annapolis, Md., and was attached to the Army of Virginia. Later, taking an active part in the Virginia campaign, he was engaged in the Battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House and Cold Harbor. Upon the 17th of June wounded in the right hip at the first charge of Petersburg, Mr. Huntoon was removed to the Harwood Hospital in Washington, D. C., where he remained until fully recovered, in November, 1864. Returning to the army, our subject was immediately engaged in the siege of Petersburg and was with his regiment among the victorious forces when the city was captured. The fight of Appomattox Court House, Va., where Gen. Lee was captured, completed the battlefield experiences of Mr. Huntoon, who with his comrades returned to Washington and became one of the guards of Surratt and Herod, and was likewise one of the guards upon the day of the execution of Mrs. Surratt and her companions. On the very same day our subject returned home and was mustered out of the service at Detroit, Mich., August 5, 1865, after serving two years and nine months. Mr. Huntoon was five times wounded, but only once seriously.

On again entering upon the everyday work of life, our subject worked on shares his father's farm for two years, later purchasing forty acres of land in Ingham County. He also received employment in a lumber-mill for three years, and for two and a-half years handled a large contract for wood-hauling. In 1876, Mr. Huntoon removed to Muskegon County, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Holton Township. He improved a greater part of the land and continued



to reside there until 1881, when he purchased his present home, a fine property of one hundred and sixty acres, sixty-five acres then being under cultivation. One hundred and ten acres now yield an abundant harvest, and seven acres of orchard are devoted to the culture of peaches, two acres to apples, one acre to plums and a large area is devoted to strawberries and raspberries. December 21, 1865, were united in marriage Isaac F. Huntoon and Miss Malvina Landfair, of Ingham County, and daughter of Welcome D. and Mary (Clark) Landfair. Unto the union of our subject and his estimable wife were born seven children: James N.; J. Willard, of South Dakota; John W., of Menominee, Mich.; Isaac E., Edward B., Elnora J. and Flora B. November 29, 1887, Mrs. Huntoon, deeply mourned, passed away. She was thirty-nine years of age and had long been a devout member of the Congregational Church. In 1890, our subject wedded Miss Bertha Anderson, a native of Norway and a daughter of Andrew Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Huntoon are the parents of one son, Samuel J. Fraternally, our subject is a member of Dahlgren Post No. 149, G. A. R., and politically a Republican has held with efficient discharge of trusts involved the offices of Township Commissioner and Township Clerk, and is widely known as a citizen of sterling integrity of character.



**D**ERK VYN. No better class of citizens has come to Ottawa County, Mich., than those who emigrated from Holland, and none have contributed more to the growth and development of this country than those of that nativity, for they brought as their inheritance the traits of character and life which have ever distinguished them. The Vyn family is of Dutch origin, and the first branch of the family to take root upon American soil was the original of this notice. Nearly fifty years of his life have been passed on this side of the Atlantic, and nearly all that time has been passed in Grand Haven, Mich.,

where he is one of the prominent capitalists, as well as one of the most worthy and upright citizens.

Mr. Vyn was born on the 15th of January, 1831, and his parents, Nicholas and Frankie (Spiker) Vyn, were natives also of the Netherlands. Three of the children born to this worthy couple grew to mature years, and our subject is second in order of birth. The latter received a fair education in his native country, but when only sixteen years of age decided to come to America. He took passage on a vessel and reached Baltimore, Md., on the 12th of June, 1847. From there he came direct to Kalamazoo, Mich., and, as his money was getting low, he worked at odd jobs for a year. He then went to Grand Haven, where he worked at whatever honorable employment he could find, and as he saved every dollar, he had soon accumulated sufficient means to invest in the sawmill business. This he continued for about eight years and then began teaming. Later he embarked in the transfer business, and this he has continued steadily up to the present time, with the help of his sons. Twenty horses are used in this business, and in connection Mr. Vyn also keeps a brick and wood yard, the brick being the noted Zeeland manufacture. The wood he handles by the thousand-cord lots.

Mr. Vyn believes the way to succeed in life is to engage in some honorable business and then to stick to it. Sooner or later, with good management, the best results will be obtained. As his business increased, he made judicious investments and has accumulated a handsome fortune. He still gives his personal attention to much of his business, for he is well preserved in body and mind. In the year 1852 Mr. Vyn was wedded to Miss Clara Troost, a native of Grand Haven and daughter of Lambert Troost. Six children have been born to this union, five sons and one daughter. The sons are: Nicholas, in business with his father; Albert, Lambert, Martin and John. Mr. Vyn has been connected with some of the most flourishing institutions of Grand Haven, and was President of the Grand Haven Leather Company for six years. He is still Vice-President of the same. In politics he is a staunch Republican. Our subject commenced his career in this country with a

capital of \$3.50, and all he has accumulated is the result of industry, economy and good management on his part. He is now one of the wealthy men of the city, is public spirited and enterprising and is well posted on all the current topics of the day. His high reputation and material prosperity came as the reward of unusual abilities, industriously applied, and he is esteemed by all.

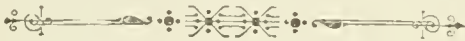


**M**ARTIN RYERSON, an enterprising and prosperous farmer located in Cedar Creek Township, near Bolton, Muskegon County, Mich., is a native of the State of New York, and was born April 20, 1840. Mr. Ryerson was the third child of the five little ones who blessed the home of Richard and Sarah (Aekerman) Ryerson, who were natives of New Jersey and New York State, respectively, and of German ancestry. The father came with his family to Michigan in 1844, and for a short time settled in Muskegon, later locating in what is now Newaygo County. He engaged in the lumbering business, and also kept the first hotel at the "Dam," now known as Ryerson's Hills farm. The brother of Richard Ryerson emigrated to the Wolverine State many years before the father of our subject, and was one of the early Indian traders. The father after a time removed to Kenosha, Wis., and there devoted his time to contracting and carpenter work. He continued in the latter employment seven years, and then returned to Muskegon, where he conducted the hotel business for the three succeeding years. He also engaged with success in the grocery business, and after a long life of busy usefulness now makes his home in Newaygo County with a son. Twice married, the mother of our subject was his first wife, and bore him these sons and daughters: Jane, wife of John Hepp, of Muskegon; Maria, widow of Henry Moth; Martin, our subject; and Libbie, wife of George Dohs, of Tioga County, N. Y.

Mrs. Sarah (Aekerman) Ryerson passed away deeply mourned in 1848. She was a member of the Congregational Church and a woman of most exemplary character, beloved by all who knew her. In 1849, the father, wedding a second time, was united in marriage with Miss Maria Gardmeier, of New York. To this union were born seven children, one of whom died unmarried. The eldest, Sarah, is deceased; Mary is the wife of Arthur Severy, of Muskegon County; Charles was the third in order of birth; Ida married John Martin, of New Mexico; George when last heard of was in Montana; Annie is deceased; and Annie, the second of the name, is married to Thomas Berry, of Chicago. Our subject attended the district schools of Muskegon and Wisconsin and at eighteen years moved with his father to a farm, and entered with energy into the tilling of the soil. Continuing upon the old homestead, which he has now owned for twenty-one years, Mr. Ryerson there began life for himself immediately after attaining his majority, but during his twenty-fourth year went to Muskegon and worked as foreman in a lumber-mill for Tunis Ryerson three years. The succeeding two years he successfully logged on the Muskegon River, but finally decided to make farming the vocation of his life and, purchasing eighty acres of his father's homestead, settled down to the daily pursuit of agricultural duties. His highly cultivated land is well improved with excellent buildings and is one of the most attractive farms in that locality.

Making a specialty of sheep raising, our subject breeds, for the mutton only, the coarse-wooled variety. He has made a success of general farming, his abundant harvest annually yielding him excellent returns for the time and labor expended. In 1867 Martin Ryerson and Miss Delia J. Wilson, of Montcalm County, Mich., were united in marriage. Mrs. Ryerson was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Wilson, who reared a family of seven children. Delia, the estimable wife of our subject, was the eldest; Otis lives in Montcalm County; Alice is the wife of P. Holcomb; George resides in Oregon; Jerome is deceased; Nora is the wife of Charles Mattison, of Oregon; and Bert makes his home in Montcalm County. Mr. and

Mrs. Ryerson have two children, Louis M. and Minnie M., both at home. Beginning life without capital, our subject had by unvarying industry acquired one hundred and twenty acres of land and a modest amount of ready money prior to his marriage, his course from early manhood leading upward to the comfortable competence now shared by himself and family. Mr. Ryerson is fraternally connected with the Grange, and is also a member of the Knights of the Maccabees. Politically, he is a strong Republican, deeply interested in both local and national issues, and is widely known as a liberal-spirited and progressive citizen.



**E**DWIN HAYWARD, a prominent land-owner residing in Casenovia, was born in the village of Farmington, Ontario County, N. Y. He represents a well-known Eastern family, whose members have been prominent both in military and civic life. His paternal grandfather, Stephen Hayward, was born near Boston, Mass., and at the age of fifteen years, with his father and brother, participated in the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill. Of the three who marched forth to battle for the Colonies, he alone returned, his father having been killed in the engagement at Germantown, and his brother at Saratoga. At the close of the war he removed to Ontario County, N. Y., where he entered and improved two hundred acres, making his home upon the place until his death, which occurred in 1836, at the age of eighty-four.

In the family of Grandfather Hayward there were five sons and four daughters, who grew to maturity, viz.: Henry, Theodore, Elisha, Hallaway, Ormand, Betsey, Lucy, Hannah and Nancy, all of whom reared families with the exception of the daughter Betsey. The father of our subject, Capt. Ormand Hayward, was born near Boston, Mass., and accompanied his father to New York, remaining for a time in Ontario County. Later

he removed to Niagara County, the same State, where he acquired the ownership of forty acres. In his old age he and his wife came to Michigan, and made their home with our subject until his death, in 1882, at the age of eighty-two. His wife passed away at Kendallville, Ind., at the age of eighty-nine years, and her remains were brought to Michigan for interment. She was a devoted member of the Christian Church, and a lady of noble character, whose memory is revered in the hearts of her children. A Democrat during his entire life, Capt. Hayward won his title by his service during the War of 1812.

The lady who became the wife of Capt. Hayward was Sarah B., daughter of George B. Gaskill, a farmer who for many years resided in Lockport, N. Y., and there died. Mrs. Hayward was born in Rutland, Vt., and was one of a family of three sons and four daughters. By her marriage she became the mother of four sons and three daughters: Dorinda, Franklin, Edwin, Sarah, Sabra, John and Montgomery, all of whom are now living.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Ontario County, N. Y., until he was a lad of nine years, when he accompanied his parents to Lockport, and there grew to manhood. When fourteen years old, he commenced to earn his own support, and for eighteen months resided in Canada. Thence he proceeded to Ohio, and from there in 1842 came to Michigan, settling in Eaton Rapids and following his trade of a cooper at that place. In the fall of 1843 he traveled by canoe down the Grand River, and after seven days and nights spent on the water he reached the village of Portland, the first white settlement he had passed during the entire voyage. Upon arriving at the mouth of the Flat River, he was too sick to travel further, and was obliged to rest for a few days. For one year he worked at his trade in that vicinity, and thence, in the fall of 1844, proceeded via the Indian trail to Newaygo, Mich., where for seven years he operated a mill for John A. Brooks.

Afterward Mr. Hayward entered into the milling business and conducted a mill on the Rogue River. Upon disposing of that property he built a mill at Rockford, Kent County, which he operated until, in the panic of 1857, he lost every-

thing he had made. In the fall of the same year he located on one hundred and sixty acres, comprised in his present farm in Casenovia Township. In addition to this estate, he is the owner of two hundred acres, which he has cleared and improved with substantial buildings. He is also the owner of a fine fish pond. In 1861 he purchased a mill at Casenovia, which for a number of years he continued to manage. Then, in company with a brother, he built a mill at Moon Lake, which he operated for eight years. During the year 1877 he went to Buffalo, N. Dak., where he resided for five years, returning thence to Casenovia. He is the owner of four thousand acres in Arkansas County, Ark., and has platted the village known as Grand Cyprus.

Mr. Hayward has been twice married, his first wife being Mary, daughter of Brigham Pettengill, a lumberman residing in Michigan. The second wife of Mr. Hayward was Alice, daughter of Minor Johnson. The first union was childless; the second marriage has resulted in the birth of four children: Edward, Clara, Bernie and Hunter. In his political affiliations, our subject is independent, voting for the best men and the best principles, irrespective of party ties.



**G**ERRIT J. DIEKEMA is a prominent attorney, who has met with marked success in the practice of his chosen profession. He has a decided veneration for the law, and this, combined with the accuracy of his legal knowledge, lucidity of statement and felicity of illustration, has given him the confidence of all his patrons. He was born at Holland, Mich., March 27, 1859, a son of W. Diekema, and was reared and educated in the town of his birth, receiving the advantages of the common schools. In 1873, in order to more fully fit himself for the duties of life, he entered Hope College, in which he took a full classical course, graduating in 1881. Immediately thereafter he began the study of law in

the law department of the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and was graduated therefrom two years later. He immediately hung out his shingle at Holland, his old home, and unlike the majority of young lawyers he had not long to wait for clients, but at once entered upon an active legal practice, which has continued to grow in volume until he now has all the work he can properly attend to. He is at all times faithful to the interests of his clients, reads up his cases thoroughly, and is consequently never caught unprepared.

In 1885 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary Alcott, daughter of Joseph Alcott, a resident of Illinois, and to their union a family of three children has been born: Marguerite, Mary and Willis. Mr. Diekema, his wife and children are regular attendants of the Reformed Church of America, and are among the most highly respected citizens of Holland. Politically, the Republican party has always recommended itself to the excellent judgment of Mr. Diekema, and in 1884 he was elected by that party to the position of Superintendent of Schools, which office he filled for two years. In 1885 his party further showed its appreciation of his mental powers and patriotism and his desire for the good of his section by electing him to the State Legislature, and this position he filled with distinguished ability for eight years.

In the session of 1889-90, our subject was Speaker of the House of Representatives, and presided with great judgment and wisdom in this responsible and trying position. He was a able legislator, and while serving his constituents in this capacity did much good for his own section, and was by no means indifferent to the welfare of other portions of the State. He is usually on the Committee of Resolutions in the State Conventions of the Republican party, and in all the conventions of his county he is a leader. In 1892 he was honored by receiving the nomination for Attorney-General of the State by his Republican friends, and at the election had for his opponent Mr. Ellis, who was the nominee on the Democratic and the People's ticket, and owing to this Mr. Diekema was defeated, though he received one thousand more votes than the Republican candidate

for Governor, who was elected by thirty thousand majority. His career in the political arena has been one of honor, and he is no less distinguished as a lawyer, for he is a forcible, eloquent and convincing speaker, logical in his reasoning and always deeply in earnest.

Mr. Diekema is one of the Directors of the First State Bank of Holland, and as he has always been interested in the cause of education, he was considered a suitable man to be a member of the Council of Hope College of the city of Holland. He is the present City Attorney of his town, and as a legal practitioner does one of the largest businesses in the State, his practice being very large and remunerative. In personal appearance he is prepossessing, in manners he is very popular in the social circles of his section. He is one of the rising lawyers of the State, and will without doubt, ere many years pass over his head, stand among the eminent men of the country.



**L**UKE LUGERS, bookkeeper for B. L. Scott's lumber business and planing mill at Holland, Ottawa County, Mich., was born in Allegan County, Mich., on the 2d of February, 1853, and is a young man of superior ability. His father, Benjamin Lugers, was born in Holland, and was there reared and educated. Being a carpenter by trade, the father thought to better his condition financially by coming to the United States, and in 1848 crossed the ocean. He decided to locate in one of the northern tier of States, and Michigan was the one chosen. He settled in Allegan County, entered a tract of Government land, all wild, and began improving and clearing off the heavy timber. To the original tract he has since added forty acres, making eighty acres of excellent land. Like all the native Hollanders, he was thrifty and industrious, and succeeded in accumulating considerable means. He was married in this county to Miss Henrietta

Brinkman, daughter of Henry Brinkman, and six children were born to this union, five of whom are still living: Henry, residing in Allegan County; Fanny, Mrs. Denuyl, of this county; Mrs. Van Zanten, who resides in this county; Benjamin, residing on the old home place; and our subject. Hannah, died at the age of twenty-eight years.

The parents of the above-mentioned children are still living and are much esteemed residents of Allegan County. The father is a member of the Reformed Church and is an active worker in the same. His son Luke, the subject of this sketch, was reared in Allegan County, Mich., and secured a good practical education in the district schools. Later he attended the Normal School at Otsego and Wayland, in Allegan County, and subsequently began teaching school, continuing this for seventeen years in that county, and nine years in the same school. He was unusually successful in that profession and was classed among the best educators of the county. On account of poor health he was obliged to leave the school, and in 1887 he came to Holland, where he accepted the position he now holds. He has discharged the duties of his position in a very capable and efficient manner and is an exceptionally well-informed man.

The happy domestic life of our subject began in the year 1878, when he was married to Miss Lucretia Anna Ellenboss, whose father was a native of Holland, but came to this country in the year 1817 or 1818. Mr. Ellenboss was one of the pioneers of this county and assisted in clearing the wilderness and making possible the pleasant homes of to-day. To Mr. and Mrs. Lugers were born three children, as follows: Benjamin James, Georgiana Helena and Henrietta Lucretia. Politically, Mr. Lugers is a Republican, and after he was twenty-one years of age he was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, which position he filled in a very satisfactory manner for ten or twelve years. He was then elected Township Clerk, and held that position one year, after which he was elected Supervisor and was the incumbent of that office until he moved to Ottawa County, a period of five years. He was School In-

spector a number of years while residing in Allegan County. In the spring of 1893 he was made Supervisor of Holland Township, this county, being elected by a majority of one hundred and forty-three votes. He is a member of the Reformed Church in Allegan County and is a Deacon of the church. He has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school and teacher in the same for many years, and is well posted on all Biblical subjects. He owns twenty-eight acres where he lives and two houses in Holland, but nearly all his time is given to the duties of his office. Mr. Lugers was reared in the woods and has witnessed the growth and improvement of the country in the last twenty years. He remembers when deer were plentiful and when Indians were seen almost every day.



**D**M. DARLING, who resides on section 21, Holton Township, Muskegon County, where he carries on agricultural pursuits, is a native of the Green Mountain State. He was born in Franklin County in 1833, and is a son of Arnold and Rebecca (Marrian) Darling. The father was born in Vermont in 1807, and throughout his entire life followed the occupation of farming. From his youth he made his own way in the world, and therefore deserves great credit for his success. After arriving at mature years he was married, and by the union three children were born: D. M., Sarah and Rebecca. When our subject was six years of age the mother of this family died, and Mr. Darling was again married, his second union being with Sarah Preston, by whom he had one child. After her death he wedded Jane Chase, and six children were born of the third union.

At quite an early age the subject of this sketch began to earn his own livelihood. He worked on a farm in order to get a few clothes, and then went to school, desiring, if possible, to acquire a good English education. When about sixteen years of age he learned the carpenter's and stone-

mason's trades, and, in connection with work in those lines, he also engaged in moving buildings. To some extent he continued his labors as a farm hand, and, in fact, followed any honorable pursuit that offered, whereby he might earn a livelihood.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Mr. Darling chose Miss Almire Preston, and unto them were born two children, who are yet living: Harlon, who married Sophia Hegstrun; and Nancy, wife of Charles Anderson. The mother of this family died after the removal to Michigan, and for his second wife Mr. Darling chose Miss Mary A. Snow, daughter of Turner and Rachel Snow. Their union has been blessed with two daughters: Mildred and Hester.

In 1856 Mr. Darling emigrated Westward and settled in Vernon, Wis., where he accepted a position as overseer of a large farm. He there remained until 1863, when he came to Muskegon County and settled on land belonging to the Indians. Purchasing eighty acres which were still in their primitive condition, he began lumbering, selling large quantities of timber from his place. He has also worked at the carpenter's trade to a considerable extent in Muskegon County, but now devotes his energies exclusively to agricultural pursuits. The buildings upon the place are all monuments to his handiwork, having been erected by him, and the other improvements upon the farm are witnesses of his thrift and enterprise.

In politics Mr. Darling is a supporter of the Republican party, and is now serving as Drainage Commissioner. He holds membership with the Grange, and belongs to Dahlgren Post No. 149, G. A. R., of Holton, for he was one of the honored boys in blue of the late war. He entered the service in 1861, and was assigned to Company G, Eighth Michigan Infantry, under Gen. Burnside. He participated in the capture of Petersburg and Ft. Stedman. He received a flesh wound, being struck by a spent ball, but was never off duty until after the close of the war. He was present at Lee's surrender, and was in the front ranks when the army marched between. In July, 1865, he was honorably discharged in Washington, D. C., and sent to Detroit, where he was paid

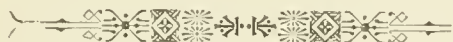
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*John Anney*



off. He participated in the Grand Review in the Capitol City, one of the most celebrated military pageants in history, where wave after wave of bayonet-crested blue passed by the reviewing stand and cheer after cheer arose in honor of the victorious troops.



**J**OHAN ANYS. The farming and stock-raising affairs of Ottawa County, and particularly of Olive Township, are ably represented by John Anys, who is a descendant of thrifty Holland stock, and has inherited all the energy and perseverance of those of that nativity. His life of industry and usefulness, and his record for honesty and uprightness, have given him an influence in the community which all might well desire to share. He was born in the province of Gelderland, in the city of Lochem, in the Netherlands, October 7, 1829. His parents, Garrett H. and Sarah (Hellweits) Anys, were of German origin.

The original of this notice received his scholastic advantages in his native country, and there remained until 1852, when he sailed for America. Landing in the City of New York, he followed farming and carpentering until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he shouldered arms to fight for his adopted country. At this time he was residing in New Jersey, and on the 5th of January, 1864, he enlisted in Company I, Thirty-third New Jersey Infantry. He served with Gen. Hooker's corps and was with Gen. Sherman in his march to the sea, everywhere bravely fighting for the Old Flag. He participated in the battles of Mills Spring, Resaca, Rome, Altoona, Pine Knob, and Muddy Creek. He was taken sick soon after the last-named engagement and did not see any more service, being discharged in Washington, D. C., in August, 1865. For some time he was confined in the hospital in New Albany, and a long period elapsed ere he regained his accustomed health.

Returning to New Jersey after the war, Mr. Anys there lived until the latter part of 1865, when he moved to Chicago, then a city of about one hundred and sixty thousand inhabitants. As soon as his health would permit, he engaged in carpentering, making his home in that place for several years, and serving on the police force for some time. In 1879 he located upon the farm he now occupies, which consisted then of eighty acres of unimproved land. He engaged actively in the improvement of his farm, and now has twenty-five acres cleared of the heavy timber with which it was covered. Aside from his farming industry, he has been interested in other occupations, and since 1890 has engaged in sawmilling; he supplies a large amount of lumber to the surrounding country, only himself and his four sons being engaged in this occupation. He is a man who, throughout his whole life, has maintained a high character for integrity and uprightness, and who has the confidence and respect of all his acquaintances.

Mr. Anys selected his wife in the person of Miss Nellie Brun, a native of Holland and the daughter of Paul and Catherine (Wright) Brun, also natives of that country. Their union was solemnized in 1857 and resulted in the birth of nine children, three of whom died when young. The others were as follows: G. H., of Chicago; Pauline, wife of F. C. Marsac, of Hickman, Ky.; William, Charles, Abram and Martin. Mr. Anys is a member of Van Rota Post No. 662, G. A. R., and an enthusiastic supporter of all public enterprises.



**S**AMUEL BRONER. Among the industrious farmers of Fruitland Township is he of whom we write, whose birth occurred in the southern part of Sweden, July 16, 1836. His fertile farm, situated on section 13, came into his possession in 1860. At that time very little had been done for the improvement of this

county, which was heavily timbered. There were few roads and traveling was very difficult. The timber on our subject's place was mostly hardwood, and therefore possessed unusual value. He has brought his farm to a high state of improvement, and has himself cleared the greater portion of it.


The boyhood days of our subject were passed in his native land, where he resided until he had reached his eighteenth year. As his father was a man of considerable means, he gave to his children good advantages. Mr. Broner received a good education and graduated from one of the higher schools. His father was at one time the owner of a large tract of land, consisting of over seven hundred acres. He held various official positions during his lifetime and was a Deacon in the Lutheran Church. He reached the ripe old age of eighty-four years, while his wife, whose maiden name was Olie Oleson, departed this life at the age of sixty-four. Their family comprised eleven children, four of whom died in childhood. The eldest of the family, Sven, is deceased. James is still a resident of Sweden, as is also the next younger, John, and the youngest of the family, Johanna. Olaf lives in California. Louis is deceased, and Samuel is the subject of this sketch.

On arriving at his eighteenth year, Samuel Broner bade adieu to his many friends and relatives in the land of his nativity, to seek his fortune in the New World. He started forth on a sailing-vessel, the "Cambria," and at the end of seven weeks on the Atlantic, during which time the vessel encountered three very severe storms, they arrived safely in New York City. He at once proceeded to St. Louis, where he met a brother who had come to this country two years previously. The latter had changed his name to Broner, which our subject also adopted. For six months Samuel Broner worked at the furniture trade in St. Louis, after which he went to Chicago. In 1855, he arrived in Michigan, near the present site of Whitehall. The country was then sparsely settled with white people and bore little promise of the great and prosperous future before it. For a few months our subject worked at various employments in order to obtain a livelihood, and then

entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government. For some time he engaged in logging, or up to the time when he became the owner of a farm of eighty acres. This property he is still engaged in cultivating.

In this county Mr. Broner was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Reamer, whose birth occurred in Milwaukee, Wis. Her parents, Ferdinand and Mary (Winters) Reamer, are natives of Germany. Seven children were born to this union of Mr. and Mrs. Broner. Three of the number died in infancy. John O., the eldest of the family, was born in 1865. Edward W. was called from this life when he had reached his majority. Alvena, who was born in 1875, and Chester complete the family.

Mr. Broner is an ardent supporter of the Republican party and is always to be found in the front rank of all enterprises tending to benefit the immediate community and the country at large. He is industrious and energetic and has ever been honorable and just in his dealings with his fellow-men. He still clings to the faith of his fathers and is a member of the Lutheran Church, which he has attended from boyhood. He is a self-made man, having carved out his own fortune, and having reached his present prosperity entirely through his own unaided efforts.



**W**ILLIAM B. CHITTENDEN, a successful fruit-grower and general farmer of Ottawa County, and a prominent citizen of Crocker-Township, was born in the town of Dix, Chemung County, N. Y., November 7, 1850. He traces his ancestry to Vermont, where his paternal grandparents, Samuel and Sarah (Hodges) Chittenden, were born, and whence, soon after the War of 1812, they removed to Geauga County, Ohio. There he followed agricultural pursuits until his death. His wife passed away while residing in New York.

The father of our subject, Benjamin F. Chitten-

den, was born in Geauga County, Ohio, November 7, 1818. In 1856 he came from Geneva, N. Y., to Ottawa County, Mich., where he resided until 1863, removing thence to Wisconsin, and spending one year in that State. He then returned to Michigan, and now makes his home upon the farm which he purchased in 1866, and which, through his tireless exertions, has been cleared and converted into one of the best farms in the township. In former years he was employed in sawmills, but for several years he has given his undivided attention to agricultural pursuits. His wife bore the maiden name of Abigail T. Woodruff, and is still living, being well preserved and strong in spite of advancing years.

Of a family of eight children, four of whom are now living, the subject of this notice is second in order of birth. At the age of six years he was brought by his parents to Michigan, and grew to manhood in Ottawa County, receiving his education in the district schools near his father's home. He resided with his parents until his marriage, September 3, 1877, when he was united with Miss Julia, daughter of Andrew J. Hale, and a native of Kenosha, Wis. Five sons and two daughters have blessed this union, as follows: Arthur L., Emmons C., William B., Manley, Floyd, Alta (deceased) and Emma.

In all local matters pertaining to the welfare of the community, Mr. Chittenden is interested, not passively, but in an active manner, aiding them with his time, money and influence to the fullest extent possible. His first Presidential ballot was cast for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, and at each recurring national election he has taken pleasure in depositing his vote in the interest of the Republican party. He is a member of the School Board of his district, and through his interest in educational matters has been enabled to promote the cause of public schools and the standard of education very materially.

For ten consecutive seasons Mr. Chittenden and his brother Eugene have owned and operated a threshing-machine, and as they are thoroughly competent their services are in constant demand during harvest. They have recently purchased their third machine, and expect to continue to

make this business one of their specialties. In 1881 our subject purchased the forty acres where he has since resided. At that time only fifteen acres had been cleared, but through his efforts the entire tract has been placed under fine cultivation and improved with substantial buildings.



**W**IEPKE DIEKEMA, the efficient County Superintendent of the Poor of Ottawa County, Mich., and a prosperous general agriculturist residing upon section 31, Holland, Mich., has held many important public positions of trust, and was for eight years Highway Commissioner and for twenty consecutive years ably discharged the complex duties of Township Supervisor. Our subject is a native of the Netherlands, and was born in that fertile country in the year 1830. His parents, Peter and Bouwena Diekema, born in the Netherlands, were descendants of a long line of sturdy ancestry, who cultivated the land of the Old Country, and with frugal industry won their way up to comfort and prosperity. Peter was the son of Wiepke and Tartje Diekema, and parents and grandparents were natives of the province of Groningen. The paternal and maternal ancestors of Mr. Diekema were prominent people, widely known and highly respected for their ability and upright character. The paternal grandfather was a large farmer, owning about two hundred acres of valuable land, upon which he raised with profit both grain and cattle. He lived to the advanced age of eighty-five years, and at the time of his death, in 1811, was wonderfully well preserved, having excellent teeth, white and firm, and curly hair, and, five feet eight inches in stature, was a fine-looking man.

The paternal grandfather, a man of more than ordinary influence in his locality, reared a family of eleven children, all of whom, with the exception of the father of our subject, lived and died in their native land. The father devoted

his entire life to agricultural pursuits, and was both a renter and land-owner of the Old Country. With his family he emigrated to the United States in 1848, and having made a safe voyage did not tarry long in the East, but made his way directly to Michigan, where he bought twenty acres located in the dense woods of Ottawa County, and situated upon section 31, township of Holland. Cultivating the soil and improving the farm with good buildings, he lived to see most of the acres yielding an abundant annual harvest, and in the Wolverine State reared his family. The mother of Mr. Diekema was a widow when she married the father, and by her first husband, Walter Vos, had two daughters: Martha, aged seventy-eight, a resident of the Old Country; and Catherine, widow of Marcus Nienhuis. The union of the father and mother was blessed by the birth of two children: Wiepke, our subject; and Eilke, the wife of Paul Berghois, living one mile east of Holland. The parents were both devout members of the Reformed Church and were active in good work. The father, politically a Republican, was well versed in the affairs of Government. He did not long survive middle life, passing away in 1850, at fifty-seven years of age. The mother lived to reach the advanced age of four-score years and two, and peacefully entered into rest.

Our subject in 1852 married Miss Hendrikjen Stegeman, who was born in the Province of Overisel, in the Netherlands, the daughter of John and Hendrikjen Stegeman. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Diekema was brightened by the birth of eight intelligent children. Peter died in infancy; Henerika married John Teneate; Peter died at the age of fifteen; G. J. was the fourth in order of birth; then follow Aldert, Bouwina, Albert and Martha. In 1852 our subject bought the eighty acres of land where he resides and to which he has added until he now owns one hundred and ten acres, formerly wild land, but all now under high cultivation and well improved with commodious and substantial buildings, which well attest the prosperity of the owner. Our subject and his estimable wife are able members of the Reformed Church of Holland and are leaders in church work. Politically, Mr. Diekema is a Re-

publican and has been since the war. Long identified with matters of local welfare, he began his public career as a Roadmaster, being elected to the position in 1868. With fidelity discharging the duties assigned to him as Supervisor, Commissioner and Superintendent of the Poor, our subject is also a Notary Public and by his official record and private life commands the high regard and confidence of all his fellow-citizens.



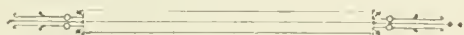
**JOHN A. THOMPSON.** Among the citizens of Muskegon County who have made a success of their agricultural enterprises, may be mentioned the name of Mr. Thompson, who conducts farming upon an extensive scale in Ravenna Township. He was born in this township June 16, 1841, and is the son of John and Ann (Hughes) Thompson, natives of Scotland, who were there born and reared. His father emigrated to America at the age of thirty years, preceding his family, and after landing came West to Illinois, where he worked as a laborer for a period of one and one-half years.

Having accumulated a sufficient sum of money to pay the passage of his family to America, Mr. Thompson, Sr., wrote them to come, and upon their arrival he settled in Ravenna, Muskegon County, Mich., where he operated as a renter and engaged in farming pursuits. Later he purchased a farm, which he cultivated until his death, in 1873. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, of whom four are now living, our subject being the eldest of the surviving members of the family. He acquired his education in the schools of Ravenna Township, and during his vacations worked on the home farm.

At the age of twenty Mr. Thompson began to be self-supporting, and has since conducted farming operations in this township, where he owns two hundred and sixty acres of arable land. On New Year's Day, 1874, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Anderson, who was born in Ohio, being

the daughter of Charles and Sarah (Shaffer) Anderson, born in Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. Mrs. Thompson is a lady well fitted to assist her husband in all his enterprises, and not a little of the success he has attained may be attributed to her cheerful counsel and co-operation. They have been the parents of seven children, but have been called upon to part with three of their little ones. The surviving members of the family are May, Jessie, Clyde and Ethel, all of whom reside with their parents.

In regard to social connections, Mr. Thompson is identified with Hancock Tent, K. O. T. M., and Ravenna Lodge No. 355, I. O. O. F. He has represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge, and has been an incumbent of all the chairs of the order. He and his wife also belong to the Rebekah Lodge, I. O. O. F. In political relations, Mr. Thompson has always been a firm advocate of the principles of the Republican party, to the support of which his influence is invariably given. He has served as Highway Commissioner, and has represented the township upon the County Board of Supervisors, being a member of the Committee on Equalization while filling the latter position.



PETER A. DEWITT, the enterprising manager and principal stockholder of the Spring Lake Basket Manufactory, of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, Mich., is widely known and highly respected as a man of more than ordinary business ability and energy. Born in the village of Spring Lake, in the year 1861, our subject has been from his earliest youth intimately associated with the upward growth and progress of his home locality. His parents, numbered among the pioneer residents and prominent citizens of this part of the State, possessed the sincere regard of a large circle of friends, and took an active part in the early struggles and subsequent development of the interests of their Western home. Mr. Dewitt received his educa-

tion mainly in the district school of his birthplace, and also enjoyed the advantages of instruction in the drug business, being in time thoroughly qualified to engage in the trade successfully. He became, in fact, while yet young in years a thoroughly practical druggist, and entered into business for himself with profitable results. He continued to handle drugs until 1891, and retained an interest in the same until 1892, when he sold out and gave his entire time and attention to the manufacture of fruit baskets. The Spring Lake Basket Manufactory has done business from its first establishment, now supplying a number of counties of the State with its goods, and under its present able supervision cannot fail to continue a financial success.

In the year 1883, Peter A. Dewitt and Miss Anna Stark were united in marriage. The estimable wife of our subject, daughter of B. Stark, one of the honored pioneer settlers of Ottawa County, like her husband has grown up among her present surroundings. Also educated in the home schools of Spring Lake, she was well fitted to assume the responsibilities of married life when she joined her fortunes with those of our subject, to whom she has been a faithful helpmate and companion. Two bright little sons, Leslie and Stuart, have blessed the happy home and will enjoy the advantages of an excellent education and a training which will enable them to worthily occupy any position of trust to which they may be called. Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt fill a position of useful influence and take an active part in the good work and benevolent enterprises of Spring Lake and its near vicinity.

Politically, our subject is a staunch Democrat, and since attaining his majority has been deeply interested in both local and national issues. Pronounced in his views and possessed of executive ability, Mr. Dewitt has taken a leading position in the local councils of his party, and held with efficiency and to the great satisfaction of the entire community of Spring Lake the position of Postmaster during the first administration of President Cleveland. In all matters of interest to the general public of his locality our subject is accounted a public-spirited citizen, ever ready to do

his part in the promotion of enterprise and educational advancement. Passing his mature years among the friends of a life-time, Mr. Dewitt receives the confidence of all who know him, and is esteemed for his sterling integrity of character and thorough business efficiency.



**J**D. MEINHARDI, M. D., an experienced physician and skillful druggist of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., is a native of Emden, in the province of Hanover, and was born in the western part of the German Empire October 18, 1818. Dr. Meinhardt is the son of James and Tedina (Lorentz) Meinhardt, who were both likewise born in the province of Hanover. The paternal grandfather, D. J. Meinhardt, was known as one of the most eminent surgeons of his day. The father, James, was also a noted physician, having the title of "Sanitätsrath," and, having been a member of the "Kronenorden," was classed among the foremost physicians of his country. He amassed a large fortune, and died in his native land at the advanced age of ninety-three, in October, 1892. Tedina Lorentz, the mother of our subject, was the daughter of Judge Antone Lorentz, a man of high position in his locality. An uncle of Dr. Meinhardt's, also named Antone Lorentz, was a prominent lawyer and received the title of "Justiz-Rath." The mother passed away in her native land in 1891, aged seventy-eight years. Our subject was one of a family of thirteen children. Julia married Fritz Kopp, Secretary of the Circuit Courts of Emden, Germany. Ella is the widow of Mr. Sanders, for years a clerk in the State Courts of Ostfriesland. Johann was a Lieutenant in the Sixth Infantry, in the Hanoverian army, and died during his term of service. Anna married Jacob Jacobs, Ober-Post Secretary at Emden. Anton was an officer in the German navy, and is a well-known sea-captain in the merchants' trade between Germany and British ports. Rudolph is a member of the firm of

Schreiber & Co., large stove manufacturers in Ostfriesland. This firm employs some five or six hundred men, and is a leading house of Germany. Karl is a wealthy German farmer. George, a Lieutenant in the Third German Hussar Cavalry, was killed while on duty by being thrown from his horse. Edmund is a prosperous agriculturist of Ostfriesland. Eduard was for many years Administrator of the Emperor's Drug Store, but is now a resident of Potsdam, and the owner of a large drug house.

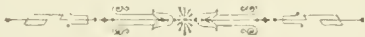
Our subject spent the early years of his life in his birthplace and received his youthful schooling in the gymnasium, and later studied at Aurich, where he was engaged with his books when, in October, 1869, he volunteered in the German army, Third Hussar Cavalry. At the end of one year he passed a successful examination, and for meritorious conduct on the battlefield of Mars La-Tour, where he received a sabre thrust in the left shoulder, was given the Commission of a Lieutenant, and served as such with marked distinction on the field of war. Taking an active part in the struggle, Dr. Meinhardt remained in the army until peace was declared between France and Germany.

In the spring of 1872, our subject entered Frederick Wilhelm's College at Berlin, and was graduated in 1874, receiving one year's credit for his service in the army. After passing one year as a physician on an ocean steamer, the Doctor came in the fall of 1875 to America, locating at first in Milwaukee, Wis., where he practiced for six years, in 1881 removing to Montague, Mich. In the spring of 1893, our subject settled permanently in Whitehall, opening a drug store, but still continuing the practice of his profession. Since making his home in the United States, Dr. Meinhardt has several times visited his native land, having but recently returned from Germany, where he had been to assist in settling up his father's large estate, being an heir of the same to a goodly amount.

In 1883 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Molsberger, of Milwaukee, whose father, Henrich Molsberger, was a civil engineer, then a resident of Milwaukee, but now a citizen of St. James, Neb. The family of Mrs. Meinhardt came from Wildbad in the Black Forest of Ger-

many, and were among the highly-esteemed people of that district. The accomplished wife of our subject received a thorough education, and occupies a high social position. Four children have blessed the union: Elsa, seven years old, in May, 1893; Caesar James, six years old in August, 1893; and Johanna, three years of age in March, 1893. George died in infancy.

The Doctor, a thorough business man and a highly successful medical practitioner, has always taken a very active part in politics in the Democratic party, and has held many of the local offices in Montague. He was also at one time Deputy Game and Fish Warden for the State of Michigan. Our subject is a valued member of the Maccabees, and was a delegate to the State Great Camp. Financially prospered, and a man of fine education and high attainments, Dr. Meinhardi occupies an honored position of useful influence, and is ranked among the leading physicians and prominent business men of Whitehall.



**H**OMER E. HUDSON, a prosperous farmer residing on section 33, of Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, has for a number of years been closely identified with the agricultural interests of this section of the State. He is the son of William P. Hudson, a native of Massachusetts, who followed the trade of a mechanic until 1855. He then located on a farm in the vicinity of Cleveland, Ohio, where his remaining years were passed. His marriage united him with Miss Delphia, daughter of A. S. Shurwin, a Revolutionary hero, who in an early day removed from Massachusetts to Cleveland, Ohio, settling on a farm near that city.

In the parental family there were five children, four of whom are now living, viz.: William P., a resident of Ohio; Homer E., of this sketch; Asa S. and Ruth D., both of whom live in the Buckeye State, the latter being a widow. The subject of this notice was born near Cleveland, Ohio, May

30, 1827, and was reared on a farm until attaining to manhood years. Meantime he received a good common-school education and also gained a thorough knowledge of agricultural pursuits, as well as the nursery business, having since made a specialty of the latter. In 1818 he was united in marriage with Miss Clarinda Burt, who was born in Medina County, Ohio, in 1829. Her parents, Daniel and Stata (Ganyard) Burt, removed from Massachusetts to Granger, Medina County, Ohio, where they resided until death. He was a Captain in the State Militia of Ohio, and was a man of influence in his community.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Hudson resulted in the birth of eight children, five of whom are now living. They are: Delphia C., the widow of Adelbert Barnaby, and the mother of two children; Horace A., who married Nellie Purdy and has two children; Homer F., who chose Miss Millie Anable as his wife, their union having resulted in the birth of one child; Elliott E., who married Miss Kate Pierce; and Belle M., the wife of Adrian Pompe and the mother of two children. Mr. Hudson came to Michigan in 1818 and located in Grand Rapids, where he entered the employ of Elisha Kellogg, in the nursery business. Thence, in 1849, he moved to Holland, this State, whither the Dutch colony had come the year previous. There he embarked in the nursery business, becoming the pioneer nurseryman of the place, and conducting an extensive trade, in company with Rev. A. C. Van Raalte, the founder of the Dutch colony.

After remaining thus engaged for ten years, Mr. Hudson disposed of his nursery business and removed to the farm, where he has since resided. The place was then wholly unimproved, and it required arduous exertions on the part of the owner to clear the land and cultivate the soil. As soon as he had sufficiently improved the place, he set out trees and commenced in the nursery business, which for seven years he conducted on a large scale. Then selling out his interests in that line, he commenced farming, and has since devoted his attention to the tilling of the soil. He has thirty-five acres in the home place, which he devotes to mixed farming. He also purchased eighty acres

of Luman Jenison, of which the thirty-five acres mentioned above are a part, and he has another eighty-acre tract, which is devoted to agricultural purposes.

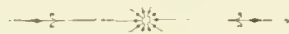
On the corner of Mr. Hudson's farm there was a little schoolhouse, known as Hudson's Schoolhouse, where religious services were frequently held. When the land was surveyed for railroad purposes, our subject furnished the property on which the depot was erected, and the station was called Hudsonville in his honor. He platted twenty acres and laid out town lots, many of which he has disposed of. His interest in the welfare of the town has been deep and unceasing, and to him more than to any other man is due the present prosperity of the village. He has given his children excellent educational advantages, all of them having completed the studies of the district schools. The eldest son, Horace A., received a collegiate education at Kalamazoo College, and engaged for a time in teaching school.

After the death of his first wife, Mr. Hudson was again married, in 1889 choosing as his wife Mrs. Maryette Aurora (Fox) Manning, a native of New York. By her former marriage she has one child, Clarence. Mrs. Hudson is an active worker in the Congregational Church at Hudsonville, and has for years been prominent in the Ladies' Mite Society, of which she is an officer. She is a teacher in the Sunday-school and a successful worker in the temperance cause. Mr. Hudson is a Christian, and by his life proves the sincerity of his religious belief.

Socially, Mr. Hudson is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has occupied all the chairs, and has served as Treasurer for many years. He is also an active member of the Grange, of which he has been Master for eleven years. For nine years he served as Director of Schools, resigning the position on account of the pressure of other duties. In politics, he is a Democrat, firm in his allegiance to the party of his choice. He has been elected to the positions of Highway Commissioner, Township Treasurer (in which he served for two years), and Justice of the Peace. On the 1st of May, 1868, he was appointed Postmaster at Hudsonville, and filled that position

for several years, the postoffice being located in his residence. The village was then called South Georgetown, and upon the change of the name to Hudsonville, February 18, 1872, he continued Postmaster, serving in that capacity until 1881.

One of Mr. Hudson's brothers, Asa, served throughout the entire period of the Civil War and was under Gen. Sherman, being Orderly-Sergeant for that famous general. In three different engagements he was the last man on the field, and his bravery gained for him the respect and admiration of his comrades in arms. Another brother of our subject, Thomas, enlisted in the defense of the Union during the late war and served in Gen. Garfield's army. He was a valiant and daring soldier until he died from injuries received in the service.

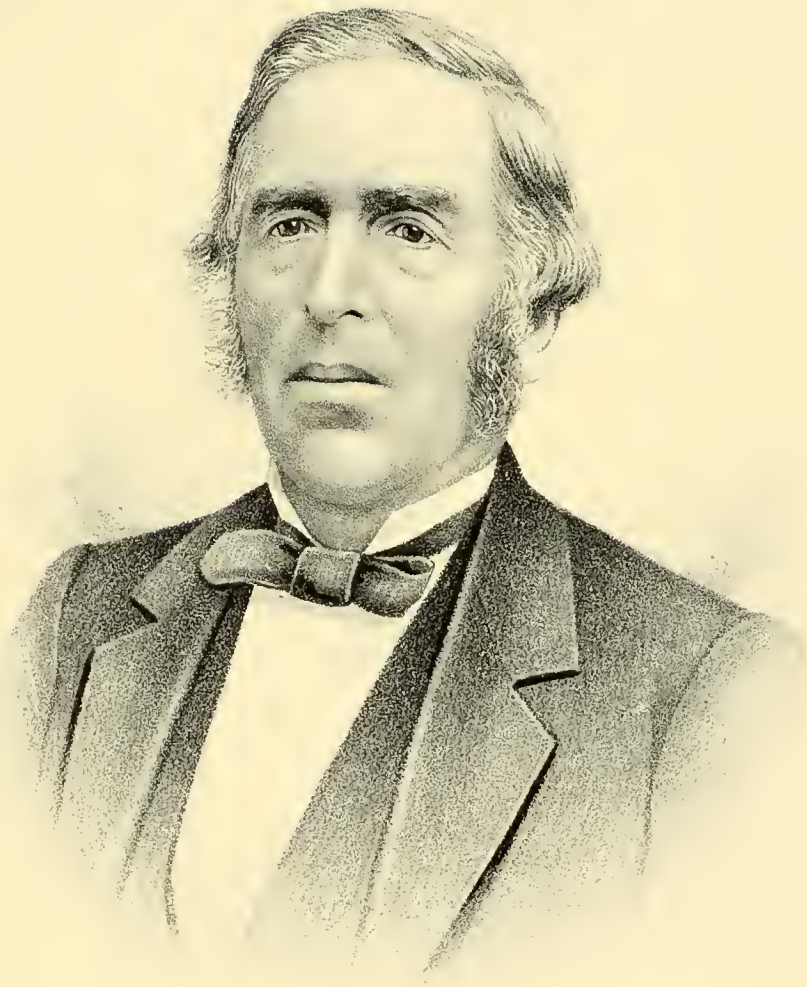


**J**OHN HALL, a prominent resident of Muskegon Township, was born in Ireland, May 18, 1833, and inherits the perseverance of a long line of Irish ancestors. His father, James Hall, a native of the Emerald Isle, there learned the trade of a carpenter in his youth, and after his marriage resided for a time in the land of his birth. Thence he emigrated to Canada, about 1848, where he followed his trade, meeting with fair success in his business enterprises. His death occurred at the age of forty-five years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Margaret Thompson, and was likewise a native of Ireland, now makes her home in New York, and retains the vigor of former years, though now seventy-eight.

The eldest of a family of seven children, our subject was eighteen years of age at the time he bade adieu to his childhood's friends in Ireland and took passage for Canada, where he resided until 1856. He then removed to New York and followed his trade of a carpenter in Rochester for two years. Coming West to Illinois in 1858, he was engaged at carpenter work in Putnam County for a number of years. His residence in Michigan dates from the year 1863, at which time he





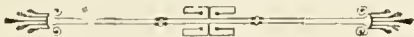


*John T. Davis*

settled in Port Huron. Two years later he went to Ionia, and after a residence of two years in that city he proceeded to Muskegon, in 1867. Here he has since conducted an extensive business as a carpenter, and has also been largely interested in farming.

In 1856 Mr. Hall was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth McMillen, a native of Scotland. Their union has resulted in the birth of two sons and two daughters: John, Fred, Margaret and Lizzie. The family occupies a high position socially, and its various members are highly esteemed among their acquaintances. In his political affiliations, Mr. Hall is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated by the Republican party, to which he invariably gives his support. In 1874 he was elected Supervisor of Muskegon Township, and officiated in that capacity for ten years. In 1871-72 he served as Township Clerk; he filled the position of Justice of the Peace for sixteen years, and has also been the incumbent of a number of school offices.

Since locating in Muskegon, Mr. Hall has given his attention principally to the occupation of an agriculturist, and the result of his efforts is visible in his fine homestead. He is a man who takes an intelligent interest in all public enterprises, and his support may always be relied upon in matters pertaining to the welfare of his fellow-citizens. In the progress of the township and county he has not been an uninterested spectator, but a prime factor, and his name is one of the most prominent among the farmers of Muskegon County.



**J**OHN T. DAVIS. When the books are balanced, when all accounts are finally adjusted, figuratively speaking, there will be a larger credit balance opposite the name of John T. Davis than is usually placed to the credit of the average of mankind. While he accumulated a considerable amount of wealth as a merchant, he became the possessor of that which is far more

valuable—an honorable name and the confidence of those who knew him best. He was born in Wales, August 1, 1821, and was a son of David and Esther (Evans) Davis, also natives of that country, the former being a tailor by trade and a man of much intelligence and great honesty. His father bore the name of Thomas Davis.

John T. Davis was the youngest of seven children born to his parents, and was sent by them to school until he was eighteen years of age, during which time he studied in both the Welsh and English languages. Upon leaving school, he followed in the footsteps of his father, as regarded occupation, and under his intelligent instruction acquired a thorough knowledge of the tailor's trade. In 1842 he decided to pursue this business in America, and after arriving in New York proceeded from there to Licking County, Ohio, where he worked as a tailor for about eighteen months. Coming to Michigan, he spent one year in Grand Rapids, and thence in 1846 removed to Grand Haven, where he made his home until his death.

Embarking in business as a dealer in ready-made clothing, Mr. Davis continued successfully until 1861, but later began dealing in fabrics for their manufacture, and made a specialty of fine foreign goods. He was very prudent and judicious in his investments, and by industry and economy became the owner of considerable means. His property included a fine, well-improved farm of two hundred and thirty acres, which he rented, besides a valuable little farm of ten acres within the city limits and a substantial store building. In 1891 he built a handsome frame residence in Grand Haven, which is modern in design and convenient in all its appointments. He was for years a stockholder in the Grand Haven Bank, and in various other ways interested himself in the numerous movements for the benefit of his section, being at all times public-spirited, liberal and business-like. He was a kind friend, and in the home circle was considerate and obliging. His entire life was characterized by diligence and promptness.

In Licking County, Ohio, October 17, 1847, Mr. Davis married Miss Nancy Evans, who died on the 7th of May, 1871. Her only son, Edward Davis, is now a resident of Montana, but for about eight

years was a prominent lumberman of Muskegon, Mich. The second marriage of our subject was solemnized in March, 1871, his wife being Miss Maggie G., daughter of Richard Owens, of Wisconsin. Of this union five children were born, namely: John T., Homer S., Charles L., Esther V. and Margaret G. In 1872 Mr. Davis visited his old home in Wales, and took that opportunity of making a tour of the British Isles, but returned to this country content to spend his remaining days here. His life was singularly blameless, and when on the 28th of August, 1893, he received his summons to the world beyond, he was prepared to depart. Within the circle of his acquaintanceship, he was mourned in death as he had been esteemed in life, and his memory will long be cherished throughout this county.



**D**AVID R. WATERS, a prominent citizen of a high order of business ability, whose prosperous career as a lawyer, editor, and gallant soldier of the late Civil War is widely known, is now President of the Grand Rapids Standard Bed Company, but devotes his time principally to fruit culture, and makes his home upon an Ottawa County farm not far from Spring Lake. Our subject, born in Lycoming County, Pa., December 3, 1836, attained to manhood in his native place, but journeying to the broader West began life for himself in Oquawka, Henderson County, Ill., where he studied law, and in 1858 was admitted to the Bar. Answering to the call of his country, Mr. Waters enlisted in the army in 1861, and joining Company G, Tenth Illinois Infantry, was upon November 19, 1861, sworn in as a private. Shortly after, our subject received promotion as Second Lieutenant and then soon became First Lieutenant, and upon the 1st of July, 1862, was made a Captain. Under the command of Gen. Grant at Mound City, under Gen. Pope at New Madrid, at Corinth under

Halleck, our subject actively participated in the leading engagements of those perilous days. Later, transferred to the command of Gen. Paine, he went from Corinth to Tusculumbia and from there proceeded to Nashville, where he passed under the command of Gen. Paimer.

Mr. Waters was next sent to the South, and remained with Gen. Rosecrans until he resigned in 1864. Our subject was Aide-de-Camp on the field under Gen. Davis and served as Judge Advocate under the same general. After he resigned from military duties Mr. Waters resumed the practice of law in Aledo, Mercer County, Ill., and was in partnership with Charles M. Harris, a member of Congress from the Quincy District. About this time, afflicted with a disease of the eye, our subject practically gave up law and went into the newspaper business at Aledo, then becoming editor of the *Mercer County Press*. In the spring of 1869, Mr. Waters located permanently in Michigan and, a constant resident of the State for twenty-four years, has been a leading business man and active politician. Soon after his arrival within the Wolverine State he purchased eighty-five acres of land north of Spring Lake, formerly owned by Mrs. E. L. Craw, and although giving a portion of his time to a variety of occupations has always been engaged in the pursuit of agriculture. During 1872 and 1873 Mr. Waters edited the *Spring Lake Independent*, and in 1875 was elected Supervisor of Spring Lake Township, and was likewise Assessor of that township during the years 1873, 1874 and 1875.

At about this time our subject settled in Grand Rapids and took a position on the *Grand Rapids Democrat*, resigning in 1876. He afterward became the editor of the *Allegan County Democrat* and remained with that paper until February, 1881, when he received the editorial charge of the *Grand Rapids Evening Leader*, continuing in this latter editorial position until the 1st of February, 1863. Mr. Waters then accepted the wardenship of the State House of Correction and Reformatory, at Ionia. In February, 1885, he returned to the *Leader* and remained the editor of that paper from then until the spring of 1890. In the mean time he had been appointed United States Marshal

for the Western District of Michigan. In 1890 our subject with others established the *Morning Press*, of Grand Rapids, Mr. Waters continuing as editorial writer until December, 1892. Upon the organization of the Grange at Spring Lake he was elected Secretary of the society and retained his official position as long as he was connected with the association. The parents of David R. Waters were native Pennsylvanians, the descendants of a long line of sturdy and industrious ancestry. Our subject, entering matrimonial bonds December 18, 1866, was then united in marriage with Miss Alice Latcha, a native of Lycoming County, Pa. Of the two children who blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Waters but one survives, Albert Latcha Waters, a graduate of the State Mining School at Houghton and the Agricultural College at Lansing. He was born on the 2d of March, 1869, and is a young man of brilliant promise. Ever a leader in the local councils of the Democratic party, our subject may review with pride the exceptional record of his life, which, spent in various fields of action, has been filled with useful effort. As a soldier, advocate and editor Mr. Waters has achieved success and, respected for his qualities as a man and citizen, he enjoys the hearty good wishes and high regard of a host of friends.



**L**D. MOSHER, one of the old settlers of Michigan and one of the leading farmers of Blenden Township, is a native of the Empire State, born May 4, 1835. His father, William Mosher, as well as his grandfather, James Mosher, were natives of New York State, the latter being one of the early settlers of the same. William Mosher left his native State in 1837 and came to Michigan, settling first in Oakland County, where he tilled the soil for some time. From there he moved to Clinton County, Mich., purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government, and remained there for eleven years. Selling out, he moved to Ionia County, Mich., where

he passed the closing years of his life. His wife's maiden name was Samantha Lawrence, and she passed her last days in Ionia County also. They were the parents of eight children. Lucy, deceased, was the wife of Jackson Cronket; Laura, deceased, was the wife of N. Lake; Louisa, deceased, was the wife of Eden Smith; L. B., deceased, resided in Ionia County, and his widow still lives on the old homestead there; L. D., our subject is next; L. V. resides in Greenville, Mich.; and Wallace is deceased.

The scholastic training of our subject was received in Clinton and Ionia Counties, and he was reared in the pioneer days of that State, when the opportunities for getting an education were anything but good. He left the parental roof when twenty-one years of age, and began farming on rented land, continuing this for two years. After this he engaged in the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years, and then moved to Gratiot County, where he was one of the first settlers, only four other families living in the township of Arcadia. For two years he remained there, but not caring about pioneer life he sold his claim for quite a handsome sum for those days and returned to Ionia County, settling close to the town of Reynolds. He there purchased an unimproved farm, which he improved and soon after sold. From there he moved to Ottawa County, and bought a portion of his present property, forty acres, and to this he has since added, until he now owns one hundred and twenty acres, with thirty-four acres under a fine state of cultivation.

Mr. Mosher owns a steam-thresher, also saws some timber, and has a great deal of farm machinery. He was married in 1855 to Miss Sarah Grow, a native of Montcalm County, Mich., and the daughter of Eddison and Charlotte (Hill) Grow, natives of New York, and old settlers of Michigan. To Mr. and Mrs. Grow were born eight children, six of whom lived to be grown. Melissa, deceased, the wife of David Walker; Sarah, deceased, the wife of our subject; Cerena, wife of Richard Murry, of Hastings, Mich.; Derius, of this county; Mary E., wife of James Murry, residing near Hastings; Gertrude, wife of Horace Weeks, residing in Kent County; Geraldine, wife

of William Smith, of St. Louis, Mich.; and Wallace, who died when quite young. To Mr. and Mrs. Mosher were born the following children: Ellis, who resides in this county; Addison, deceased, who left a wife in Berlin, Mich.; Leanora; Ralph, of this county; Benjamin; Horace; and an infant who died unnamed. Mrs. Mosher died on the 22d of November, 1891, when fifty-six years of age. She was a member of the Christian Church in Ionia County. Mr. Mosher is a member of the same church. He was a member of the Georgetown Grange, and, like his father, has always voted with the Democratic party.



**C**LAUS KEMME, the only German farmer in the section of country where he lives, was born in Hanover, Germany, May 23, 1837, and no one is better known for earnest industry and devotion to duty than he. Integrity, intelligence and system are the characteristics which will advance the interests of any man and will tend to the prosperity to which all aspire. As these are some of the traits of our subject, it is not to be wondered at that he has become prominent in his calling and that he is universally respected. He came to America in 1868, when thirty-one years of age, and settled in Ottawa County, Mich., where he has made his home since. Previous to coming to this country he was married to Miss Metta Brugman, a native also of Germany, and one child was born there.

Upon reaching this State Mr. Kemme had about \$14 in money and he first engaged as a day laborer, continuing this for four or five years. By industry and economy on the part of himself and his worthy wife, he accumulated sufficient means to purchase forty acres of land in Olive Township, and on this made his home and many improvements for ten years. He then sold out and moved on his present farm of two hundred and ten acres. He has this fine tract of land all under cultivation and raises everything in the way of farm prod-

ucts. As a farmer, Mr. Kemme has attained an enviable reputation, for in conducting his operations he has brought his good sense and his practical views to bear, and as a result has accumulated a fair share of this world's goods. He extends a helping hand to all public enterprises that tend to the development and growth of the country, and is very social, friendly and accommodating.

Mr. Kemme's success has been mostly the result of his own exertions, but he received from his old home about \$1,000. His parents, Claus and Rebecca (Umland) Kemme, were wealthy and influential people of their native country, Germany, and there passed their entire lives. They were the parents of five children: Margaret, wife of John Brewer, who resides in Wisconsin; Claus, our subject; Frederick, Rebecca and Catherine deceased. The latter was the wife of Henry Elson, of Germany. The father of these children served in the war with Denmark. He was in the army eight months and participated in a number of battles, the most prominent being Holstein. The marriage of our subject resulted in the birth of eight children, who are named in the order of their birth as follows: Catherine, Peter, Mary, Augusta, John, Claus, Fred and John (the first of that name), the three last being deceased. While residing in the Old Country Mr. and Mrs. Kemme were members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Kemme enjoys to an unusual degree the confidence of the community and is well known for his honesty and sterling integrity. His fine farm is a standing monument to his industry and good management.



**G**EORGE WALLIS. Among the well-to-do farmers of Muskegon County is this gentleman, who resides on section 1, Dalton Township. His birth occurred in 1820, in Lincolnshire, England. His parents were Wallie and Ann (Spencer) Wallis. The former was in turn

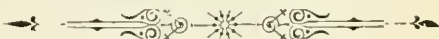
the son of Wallie Wallis, and both were natives of Lincolnshire. They were farmers by occupation, and for several generations it appears that this was the vocation of the Wallis family. Our subject's father was at one time a clerk in the Church of England, and though his educational advantages had been quite limited he was a man whose true worth and natural ability were appreciated. He was married on arriving at man's estate, and reared a family of seven sons: Joseph, William, Thomas, Frank, George, Samuel and Edward. Our subject is the only survivor of this family, and the only one of the number who left his native land. The mother died when he was a child of only four years.

George Wallis remained with his father until he was fourteen years old, when he started out to make his own living by working on a farm. In 1852 he embarked for Australia, and after a long and stormy voyage safely landed at the end of sixteen weeks. Their vessel, while crossing the Bay of Biscay, was caught in one of the most terrible storms ever known in that locality. In Australia, Mr. Wallis worked at various kinds of labor for four years. He finally bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, only eighteen miles from Melbourne. There he remained until February 16, 1861, when he returned to England with his family, the voyage consuming twelve weeks and three days.

The wife of George Wallis bore the maiden name of Ann Wallis, her parents being John and Fannie (Skelton) Wallis. They have had three children: Fannie, now Mrs. Charles Putnam; George; and Ann, wife of Chester Leighton. About four years after the Wallis family returned to England they removed to the United States, and at first settled in Genesee County, N. Y., where our subject bought a small piece of land. At the expiration of eight years, he traded his New York property for his present farm, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres. To this he has since added forty acres, and now has a valuable and desirable place. When he became its possessor, only ten acres had been cleared and the remainder was heavy timber-land. After many years of industrious toil, he has brought the place to its present condition, one

of the best farms in the township, and has made many substantial improvements thereon.

In politics, Mr. Wallis is a true-blue Republican, and his influence can safely be counted upon in all questions having for their object the betterment of the community in which he dwells. He and his wife are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which they have been identified for many years. They have never regretted their choice of this country as a place in which to make their home, and as the years have brought to them success and happiness, they can only see the wisdom of their move.



**M**ARINUS KAMHOUT is a dealer and importer of fine wines and liquors in Grand Haven. He has the honor of being a native of this city, his birth having occurred on the 31st of October, 1862. As his name indicates, however, he comes from a family of Holland origin. His father, Marinus Kamhout, Sr., was a native of Holland, and in that land was reared and educated. He learned the machinist's trade, which he followed during the greater part of his life as a means of livelihood. On coming to America he made his way to Ottawa County, Mich., and is numbered among the early settlers of Grand Haven. He was united in marriage with Catherine Nemier, also a native of Holland.

The days of boyhood and youth were quietly passed by our subject, who was reared to manhood under the parental roof, and in the public schools of his native city gained his education. As he arrived at years when it became necessary for him to make his own livelihood, he began learning the trade of manufacturing shingles with the firm of Boyden, Akeley & Co., and after thoroughly mastering the business he became manager of one of their mills, a position which he filled for seven years to the entire satisfaction of his employers. He then severed the connection with that company in order to engage in business in his own interest, and

on the 1st of June, 1885, he began dealing in fine wines and liquors. He carries everything found in a first-class establishment of this kind, and for the past eight years has successfully conducted the business, which has proved a profitable one to him. He is also interested in real estate, having some valuable town property.

Mr. Kambout exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democracy, and has been honored with public offices. In April, 1890, he was elected Alderman of the First Ward of Grand Haven on the Democratic ticket, and in 1893 he was re-elected to the same position, which he is now acceptably filling with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He takes quite an active interest in educational affairs, being a warm friend to the public schools. He holds membership with some civic societies, belonging to Highland Tent No. 203, K. O. T. M., and Ottawa Lodge No. 46, I. O. O. F.

A marriage ceremony performed in Grand Haven in 1883 united the destinies of Mr. Kambout and Miss Jennie Tourville, a native of New York. The union of this worthy couple has been blessed by a family of three children, two sons and a daughter, namely: Louis, Mamie and Marinus, Jr. The family has a pleasant home in the city where our subject has spent his entire life and where he has a wide acquaintance.



**P**ATRICK DOWD, an enterprising and successful agriculturist of Muskegon Township, residing on section 36, was born in County Sligo, Ireland, May 30, 1833. His parents, Michael and Bridget (McFernan) Dowd, were also natives of the Emerald Isle, where they passed their entire lives, the mother dying when our subject was a child of eight years. The family consisted of four sons and one daughter. The latter died at the age of three years, but the sons all attained to manhood years. Patrick, who was the eldest child in the family, was reared on his

father's farm, receiving very limited educational advantages and devoting his attention principally to farm work.

In 1850, Mr. Dowd emigrated to America and proceeded from New York, after a short sojourn in that metropolis, to Michigan, arriving in Muskegon on the 4th of September, 1851. He entered the employ of Reyson & Morris (now Reyson, Hill & Co.), and for about two years worked in their sawmill. Later, he was with another firm for a short time, after which he returned to his first employers, remaining with them many years. Upon resigning his position with Reyson & Morris, he was employed by another concern for thirteen years, and for five years held the position of engineer for C. J. Hamilton. He was also engineer on a tug, in the employ of the Muskegon Booming Company, for four years. Later, he engaged on the lake, and also was interested in milling until 1880, when he located upon the property where he has since resided.

In Chicago, in 1858, Mr. Dowd was united in marriage with Miss Mary Diver, a native of County Donegal, Ireland, who emigrated to Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1854, and thence to Chicago, residing in that city until her marriage. Seven children blessed this union, namely: John, the eldest of the family, who was drowned in the lake at the age of thirteen years and six months; Andrew, who was born in 1864 and resides at home, being the present Supervisor of the township, and enjoying the distinction of being the youngest gentleman ever chosen for that office in the township; Martin, who was born in 1866, and is now book-keeper for the Muskegon Boiler Works; Kattie, who is at home; Bernard, who was born in 1875, and is at home; Mary A., who died at the age of three and one-half years; and Una, who passed away at the age of one year.

In his enterprises Mr. Dowd has met with more than ordinary success, and in addition to his farm is the owner of five houses and two vacant lots in the city of Muskegon. What he has and what he is may be attributed to his indomitable energy, and not to any assistance from friends or fortuitous circumstances. When he arrived in Muskegon he did not have money enough to pay for his



dinner. He reached this city at eleven o'clock in the morning, and two hours later commenced to work with his customary energy, notwithstanding the fact that he had had nothing whatever to eat for many hours. It is this perseverance and dauntless courage that have secured for him the high degree of success he now enjoys. Politically, he is a Republican. In 1856 he cast his ballot for John C. Fremont, and since that time he has always voted for the principles he then upheld. For two years he served as Township Treasurer and afterward he served for the same length of time as Highway Commissioner.



**J**OHIN JONES. The creditable condition of the agricultural districts of Ottawa County, Mich., is due to a great extent to the enterprise, energy and intelligence of her farmers and stock-raisers. Among the most prominent of these may be mentioned John Jones, who is pushing, enterprising and thrifty, in fact, a model farmer. He was born on the farm on which he now resides January 16, 1856, the only son and eldest child now living of Thomas and Ann (Roberts) Jones, the former of whom came to this State in 1842, in company with Richard Roberts, and made settlement on the farm on which his widow still resides. This farm was purchased by the two men, and consisted of three hundred and twenty acres, and at the time of their location there was not another person living in the township: They came to this country from the North of Wales, and after making the purchase Mr. Jones resided on the place for about nine years, at the end of which time he returned to his native land to wed the girl he left behind him, who is now his widow. Mr. Jones returned immediately to this country with his young bride, and for a long time thereafter there was but one small settlement in the country for many miles around. There was but one schoolhouse, which was situated on

Mr. Jones' farm, and there were no churches, preaching being conducted in the schoolhouse, or at private residences. Milling was done at Grand Rapids, and as there were no public roads the journey was a wearisome one. At that time lumber-mills were numerous, and but little farming was done, the place owned by Mr. Jones being the largest in the township. During the summer months he devoted his time to tilling the soil, and in the winter he and Mr. Roberts did considerable lumbering, finding this quite a profitable occupation. He owned considerable pine land, the timber from which he sold after he had cleared and properly developed his farm, and this netted him a considerable amount of money. Mr. Jones was very successful, but he and Mr. Roberts were more forehanded than the majority of the pioneers of that day, each having a considerable amount of money in his possession. Mr. Jones purchased Mr. Roberts' interest in the farm and later made a specialty of stock-raising, in which he was recognized as the leader in his township. He raised a good grade of Durham cattle and made a specialty of heavy draft horses. At the time of his death he had one hundred acres under cultivation, on which was one of the most substantial, well-arranged and neatest farm houses in the county, besides substantial and commodious barns of all kinds. He was born in Wales June 21, 1822, and died September 12, 1880. He held the office of Township Treasurer twice, and at the time of his death was Treasurer of the Congregational Church, of which he was a member.

His father was John Enoch Jones, a Welshman, and his mother was Jennie Jones. To them four children were born. John, who followed the occupation of merchandising and died in his native land, and Thomas, the father of the immediate subject of this sketch, being the only ones who lived to mature years. The father of Mrs. Jones was John Roberts, who was a farmer of North Wales, and her mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Roberts, though she was not related to her husband. They became the parents of six children: Rebecca, widow of Richard Roberts, and the pioneer white woman of Allendale Township; Barbara, deceased, the wife of Roland Edwards, of

Wales; Betsey, deceased, the wife of Samuel Jones, who died at Liverpool, England; John, a resident of Liverpool, England; Ann, wife of Thomas Jones, and mother of John Jones; and Robert, who resides on a farm in North Wales. To Mr. and Mrs. Jones three children were given: Elizabeth, deceased; John; and Mary, wife of Thomas Lockhart, of this township.

John Jones grew to manhood on the farm on which he now lives and has always followed the occupation of agriculture. At the death of his father he assumed the care of the home place and looked after his mother and his two sisters until the marriage of one of the latter and the death of the other. Like his father, he possesses a natural aptitude for his calling and is actively engaged in farming and stock-raising, his horses being mostly Norman and of superior breed, and he is also like him in the fact that he is a Democrat in his political views. He and his mother are communicants of the Congregational Church.



**W**ILLIAM SNOWDIN, a representative general agriculturist and successful stock-raiser of Chester Township, Ottawa County, has been a resident of Michigan for forty years. An Englishman by birth, he was born in Lincolnshire April 30, 1829. He is the second child born to the union of John and Mary (Graham) Snowdin, natives of England and descendants of a long line of sturdy British ancestry. His father was twice married, and by his first union had seven sons, all of whom attained mature years. They were John, Joseph, Charles, Benjamin, George, Septimus and James. The last-named emigrated to the United States and for a time made his home in Michigan, but later removed to Beaver Dam, Wis., where he died. Joseph, George and Charles also came to America and settled in Wisconsin.

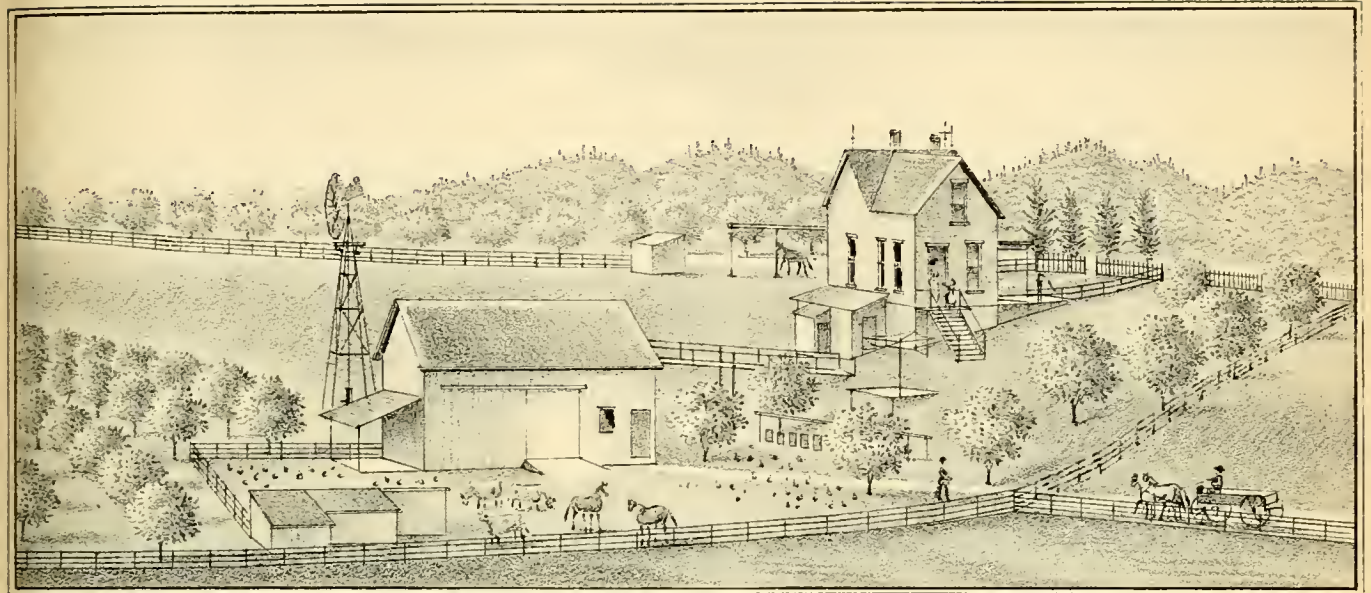
The second union of John Snowdin resulted in the birth of five children, of whom the next to the youngest died at an early age. The others are

Thominson, who is married; William, the subject of this sketch; Jane, who is the wife of George Cross and resides in Wisconsin; and Ann, who is married and resides upon the old homestead in England. The father and mother of these children spent their entire lives in England, where they both died at advanced ages. William Snowdin was educated in the excellent public schools of his native land, and at the age of thirteen years secured a position as a farm laborer. His first year's salary was \$15, and during the eleven years he continued in the employ of others his highest salary was \$60 per year.

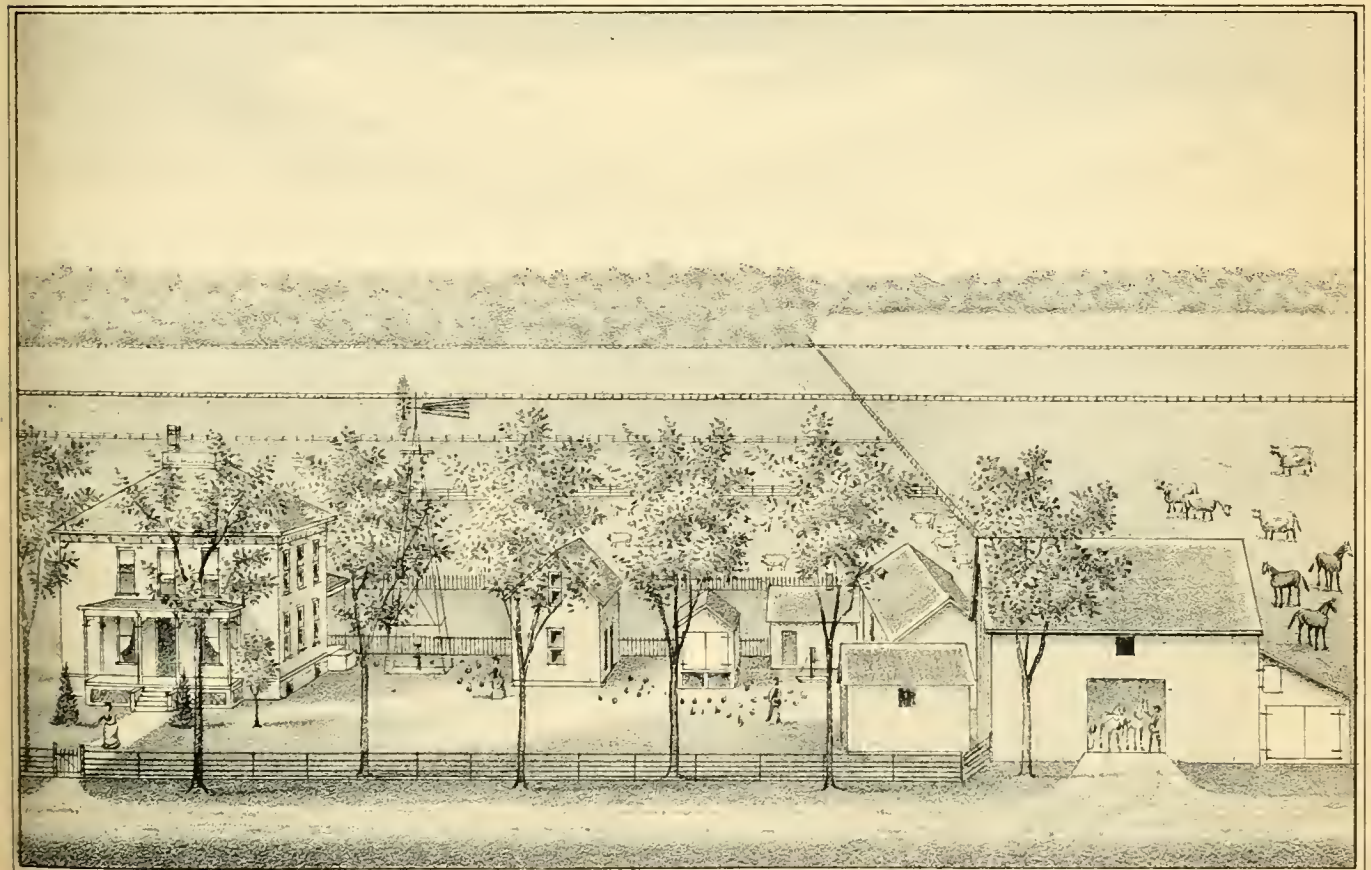
Emigrating to America in 1853, Mr. Snowdin landed in Quebec, Canada, and from that city proceeded direct to Michigan. He pre-empted forty acres in Sanilac County, which he converted into a comfortable homestead. As prosperity rewarded his efforts, he was enabled to add forty acres to the original tract, and devoted his attention to the cultivation of the land. At the expiration of about fifteen years he disposed of that farm, and in 1868 settled in Chester Township, purchasing the property upon which he has since resided, and which then consisted of seventy acres. There were very few improvements upon the farm; ten acres had been cleared, preparatory to cultivation, and a board house had been built.

During the quarter of a century covering the period of Mr. Snowdin's residence upon his present farm, he has devoted his energies exclusively to the improvement of the place, which is embellished with a spacious residence, commodious barns and substantial outbuildings. The sixty acres comprising the homestead have been placed under excellent cultivation. In addition to this property, he is the owner of forty acres in Ravenna Township, Muskegon County, adjoining the original homestead, thirty acres of the tract being finely improved. The stock raised on the Snowdin farm is noted for its excellence. The cattle are a high grade of Durham, and the horses, while not imported, are of superior breeds, comparing favorably with the finest in the county of Ottawa.

William Snowdin and Miss Mary A. Cross were united in marriage in England in 1853. The parents of Mrs. Snowdin, John and Annie (Russell)



RESIDENCE OF A. C. NORTHOUSE, SEC. 4., GRAND HAVEN TP., OTTAWA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM SNOWDIN, SEC. 7, CHESTER TP., OTTAWA CO., MICH.

YORK  
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Cross, were natives of England and had a family of ten children, all of whom remained in England excepting Mrs. Snowdin and three of her brothers. Unto our subject and his estimable wife there have been born seven children, namely: William E., a farmer residing in Chester Township; Maria, the wife of James Nevell, of Wisconsin; Anna, who taught in the district schools of Michigan, and died at the age of nineteen years; Robert R., who died when five years old; Jennie, who engaged in teaching for four years, married S. Heidenreich and lives in Wisconsin; Albert, who is married and lives at home; and Nellie, the wife of Wesley Maxwell, of Ravenna, Muskegon County. A strong Republican and a local leader of the party, Mr. Snowdin takes an active interest in all matters of public importance, and is esteemed as a substantial man of superior business ability and broad intelligence.



**A**LBERT C. NORTHOUSE, a leading general agriculturist, and for over a score of years an extensive bee-keeper of Ottawa County, making his home on a finely cultivated farm near Grand Haven, has been crop correspondent for his township for many years, and has also held with ability various important local offices. The father of our subject, Cornelius Northouse, was born in Holland, and, attaining to manhood in his native land, gained an excellent education in the public schools of his birthplace. At the age of about thirty he determined to emigrate to the new world beyond the sea, and sailing for America landed safe and sound in the United States.

Journeying at once Westward, the father went to Kalamazoo, Mich., and for two years resided in that locality. Later he removed to Ottawa County and purchased a farm one and a-half miles from Grand Haven. He then entered with energy upon the cultivation of the fertile soil of the Wolverine State, and was prospered. The original home-

stead which he bought contained only eighty acres, but to that purchase he soon added forty acres of fine timber-land, which, like his first eighty, he cleared and improved with good fencing and commodious buildings.

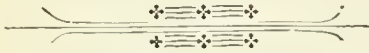
Born in 1812, the father survived to pass the allotted three-score years and ten, and after an honorable career entered into rest in 1884, forty-two years after his arrival in America. The mother of our subject, Effie Vanmaren, was born in Europe, and crossed the ocean with her parents in 1842, locating in Grand Haven, where she was married. She passed away in 1879, and in 1880 the father a second time wedded, marrying Mrs. Kate Danhaff, now residing in Grand Rapids. The six children who blessed the union of the father and mother were: Albert, Peter, Nancy, Nellie, Cornelius and Chrissie.

Our subject, Albert C., was born in 1853 upon the old homestead in Ottawa County, and attained to manhood upon the farm. He was educated in the schools of the district and, early trained in the round of agricultural pursuits, grew up a thoroughly practical farmer, well versed in every duty of farming life. He now owns sixty-five acres, thirty acres being a part of the old homestead. Raising year after year the usual farming products, our subject also cultivates a variety of fruit with success, and for twenty years has prosperously handled bees, now owning one of the finest apiaries in this part of the country.

Albert C. Northouse and Miss Ella J. Wilcox, a native of Allegan County, Mich., and a lady of worth and accomplishments, were united in marriage August 21, 1883. Two children, Alfred and Pearl, have with their bright presence cheered the pleasant home of our subject and his estimable wife. Mrs. Northouse is a member of the Congregational Church in Grand Haven, and is a ready aid in good work. The parents of Mrs. Northouse, Samuel J. and Harriet (Scotfield) Wilcox, were natives of New York and early settlers in Ottawa County, Mich. They had seven children, three sons and four daughters: Alfred J., Cynthia, Ella Jane, Arthur, Ada (deceased), Merret J. and Hattie Belle.

Our subject is identified with the Democratic

party, and has held with efficiency for about ten years the office of Justice of the Peace, and by his legal decisions has given universal satisfaction to his friends and neighbors. For one year Township Clerk and a twelvemonth Township Treasurer, Mr. Northouse gave to the demands of public work faithful service, and as a member of the School Board for eight years has materially aided in the educational advancement of his home district and has won the confidence of a host of acquaintances, by whom he is esteemed as a friend, neighbor and liberal-spirited citizen.



**J**ACOB WEERSING, a well-known citizen and enterprising general agriculturist, and for more than a score of years closely identified with the progressive growth of Michigan, cultivates a finely-improved farm located on section 36, Holland Township, Ottawa County, and, a man of ability and upright character, commands the sincere respect of a large acquaintance. Mr. Weersing, a native of the Netherlands, was born in Drenthe in the year 1836. His ancestors had patiently tilled the fertile soil of the Fatherland, and although but few of the family gained wealth, they were all self-respecting, hard-working and industrious people, bringing their children up to strict religious observance and unswerving honesty. The parents of our subject, John and Catherine Weersing, were natives of the near vicinity of the birthplace of their son Jacob. The father, born in 1807, and the mother in 1809, were reared and educated in the same neighborhood, and marrying began their housekeeping amid the familiar scenes of their childhood.

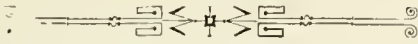
The father, by occupation a farmer, was in excellent financial circumstances, owning one hundred acres of fertile land, which annually yielded him a good harvest. Brought up from his youth to the daily round of agricultural pursuits, he had that thoroughly practical knowledge of farming

which seldom fails to insure success. Eight children blessed the home of the parents, but six are now deceased. Catherine, wife of John Johnson; and Jacob, our subject, alone survive. The devoted wife and mother died in her native land, mourned by many friends and relatives. Some time subsequent to her demise, the father determined to try his fortunes in America, and in 1870, with his two children, embarked for the United States. Landing safe and sound in New York, the family remained but a brief time in the East, almost immediately journeying to Michigan, where they located in Holland, Ottawa County, among former friends and neighbors of the Old Country. Here the father bought seventy-two acres of land, partially improved, and with energy entered into the further development of his homestead in a new land, from thenceforward his permanent residence.

The father survived his arrival in the United States fifteen years and passed away in 1885, regretted by all who knew him. He was a devout member of the Dutch Reformed Church, and from his youth upright, conscientious and faithful in all things possessed the confidence of friends and neighbors. Jacob Weersing received his education in the common schools of his native land, where he attained to manhood and in due course of time married Miss Jacoba Boalans. This marriage was blessed by the birth of four children: John, who married Ida Lemmon; Catherine, wife of John Dewitt; Jane, deceased; and Jacoba, wife of Ara Tenkate. The first wife died in 1871, after a residence of about two weeks in the United States. A second time entering the bonds of matrimony, Mr. Weersing was wedded to Miss Fanny Lemmon. The home of our subject and his estimable wife has been brightened by the birth of five children, four sons and one daughter, namely: Fanny, wife of William Dewitt; Benjamin, Johannes, Jacob and Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Weersing are valued members of the Reformed Church and are active in good work.

Politically, our subject is a Republican, deeply interested in the management of both local and national affairs, and, a good citizen, is ever ready to do his full share in all matters of mutual wel-

fare. Financially prospered, Mr. Weersing owns seventy-two acres of valuable land, highly cultivated and improved with substantial and commodious buildings, the farm presenting a thrifty and prosperous appearance.



**D** J. GATES is one of the native-born sons of Michigan who have taken a warm interest in the progress of the State and contributed to its material advancement.

An enterprising and energetic farmer, he has been highly successful in the cultivation of his place, which is located on section 11, Laketon Township, Muskegon County, and which, through his labor, is one of the best farms in the township. He is a man who uses skill and judgment in the rotation of crops and fertilization of the soil, and consequently is able to secure the very best results from every acre of his property.

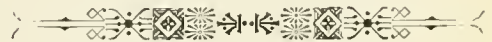
In St. Joseph County, Mich., our subject was born on the 5th of March, 1838. His father, Hiram Gates, was born and reared in Onondaga County, N. Y., being the son of Aschibald Gates, and a descendant of Scotch ancestry. The mother of our subject, Margaret Engle, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Jonathan Engle, whose ancestors were German people. After their marriage in the Empire State, the parents of our subject came to Michigan and settled in St. Joseph County, some time in the '20s, being among the pioneers of this State. They entered a tract of land from the Government, and improved the farm, building a log house and clearing the land. Some years later they sold the property and removed to Burr Oak, Mich., where Mr. Gates died at the age of fifty-five; his wife also passed away at that age.

There were six children, four daughters and two sons, in the parental family, our subject being the next to the youngest. He was reared on a farm in St. Joseph County until he was seventeen, when he accompanied his parents to Burr Oak.

There, on the 14th of February, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Delila McMillan, who was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., January 29, 1843. She is the daughter of Abram and Malvina (Pangburn) McMillan, natives of New York, and was the second of five children. At the age of ten years she came to Michigan with her father and located in St. Joseph County, where she grew to womanhood.

After his marriage Mr. Gates located in Burr Oak, Mich., where he found employment at his trade as a moulder. In 1862 he came to Muskegon County, and for about six months sojourned in Dalton Township. He then entered from the Government one hundred and sixty acres where he now resides. He first built a small log cabin, 12x14 feet in dimensions, but after living in it for one year he erected a good log house, 18x26 feet, in which he resided until 1887. Since that time he has made his home in an attractive and tastily-furnished house, erected at a cost of \$1,200, and containing all the modern conveniences. Until about fifteen years ago he was extensively engaged in lumbering, but since that time he has engaged exclusively in general farming. He cultivates one hundred and forty acres, and has given his eldest son a sixty-acre tract.

Mr. and Mrs. Gates are the parents of three sons: Frank, who resides in Laketon Township; Otis R. and Leon J., who are at home. In politics a Republican, Mr. Gates has served as the incumbent of various township offices, including the positions of Justice of the Peace and Supervisor. He was elected to represent Laketon Township on the County Board of Supervisors in 1880, and served with efficiency for two years.



**N**ELS NELSON, who carries on general farming on section 24, Holton Township, Muskegon County, is one of the worthy citizens that Denmark has furnished this community. The birth of our subject occurred in Copenhagen

in 1841. His parents were Nels and Anna (Larson) Jepperson. They were farming people, and spent their entire lives in Denmark. The mother had been twice married before her union with Mr. Jepperson, and by each marriage had one child: Gratt Johnson and John Nelson. Our subject is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Jepperson. Both parents were members of the Lutheran Church, and highly respected citizens. The father died in the land of his birth on Christmas Day of 1891, and his wife passed away about seven years previous.

In his early life Mr. Nelson was afforded good school privileges, and pursued his studies until the age of fourteen, when he was forced to earn his own livelihood. Through experience and through contact with men and the world, he has become a well-informed man. He was trained to industrious and frugal habits, and has led a busy and useful life. He began working as a farm hand, and to that labor devoted his energies until eighteen years of age, when he decided to leave the farm and go to the city. Removing to Copenhagen, he secured employment in a grocery store, where he remained until coming to the United States, in 1867.

Hoping to better his financial condition thereby, he emigrated to the New World, and after reaching the shores of this land immediately made his way to Chicago. After a few months spent in that city, he came to Muskegon and began working in a sawmill. For six years he was engaged in mill work, and then came to his present farm. As the result of his industry and economy, he had acquired some capital, with which he purchased the forty acres of land on which he now resides. It was all in its primitive condition, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement made thereon, but, nothing daunted, he began its development, and has now sixty acres under a high state of cultivation. His farm is now one hundred and twenty acres in extent, and will rapidly be improved. It is already yielding to him a good income, and its neat and thrifty appearance indicates his careful supervision.

Mr. Nelson was married in Muskegon, in 1868, the lady of his choice being Anna Johnson, who is

also a native of Denmark. Their union has been blessed with two sons, John and Hans. The family is one widely and favorably known in the community, and ranks high in social circles where true worth is received as the passport into good society. Mr. Nelson votes with the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker. In religious belief he is a Lutheran. When he reached America his cash capital was reduced to \$5, but he was ambitious and energetic, and resolved to win success. Overcoming the obstacles in his path, and surmounting the difficulties, he has steadily worked his way upward until now he is the owner of a comfortable home and property. His example may well serve to encourage others who, like himself, have to start out to fight the battles of life empty-handed.



**P**HILIP HEYBOER. Many of the most active and enterprising residents of the State of Michigan have come from Holland, but have here spent the greater part of their lives. In them may be found true loyalty to their adopted country, and they understand, as it were by intuition, the needs, social and industrial, of this vicinity, and have a thorough knowledge of its resources. They are therefore well adapted to succeed in life and make useful, progressive and law-abiding citizens. Philip Heyboer was born in the south of Holland and is a son of Peter and Wilempis Heyboer, who were born, reared and married in Holland. The early life of the father was spent on a farm, but he also managed to learn the baker's trade, and after starting out to fight life's battles for himself, he followed that occupation as a means of livelihood until his removal from the land of his nativity to the United States of America in 1846. He was a man of frugal and industrious habits, and accumulated sufficient means to bring his family, which consisted of his wife and two children, Kate (Mrs. R. A. Vogel) and Philip, to this country with him, and to pro-



vide for them in a comfortable way. He did not long remain in the East after landing, but wisely made his way Westward, Ottawa County, Mich., being his objective point, and in due course of time he found himself with all his possessions at Grand Haven, Mich. Leaving his family at that point, he made his way on foot to Holland and, being pleased with the appearance of the country, he purchased forty acres of land, and after settling on it with his family, like the majority of early settlers who made for themselves a home in the wilderness.

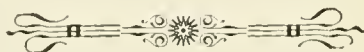
“He cut, he logged, he cleared his lot,  
And into many a dismal spot he let the light of day.”

He gave up his trade and turned all his attention to farming and the sawmill business, but in time opened a general store in the vicinity of his home, in connection with his son Philip, and this occupation received his attention for about seven years. Since then he has been retired from the active duties of life and is in the enjoyment of means which his early industry brought him.

Philip Heyboer received a fair education in his native land, and at the time of his parents' removal to this country he was in his fifteenth year. After reaching Ottawa County he could do little at first to assist his father on the home place, so accordingly secured work elsewhere, and in this manner assisted in supporting the family. In addition to this he saved sufficient means to purchase a yoke of oxen, which he gave to his father. At the early age of nineteen years he was married to Mary Weitfieldt, who was also born in the Netherlands, on the island of Flakkee. When nine years old she was brought by her parents to this country, and here she grew to womanhood. Her union with Mr. Heyboer resulted in the birth of seven children, but two died young, those living being Peter, Matthew, Lizzie, Maggie and Katie.

After Mr. Heyboer's marriage he lived with his father for a number of years, and during this time he purchased forty acres of land in connection with a brother-in-law, but his share in this land he disposed of and purchased forty acres of another tract. To this he added forty acres at one

time and sixty acres at another, and now has in all one hundred and twenty acres of as good farming land as can be found within the confines of Ottawa County, and which is well improved with substantial buildings, fences, etc. He is a member of the Reformed Church, is a Republican in politics, and has held many local offices in his township, being the present efficient Township Treasurer.



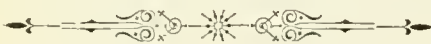
**J**OHN FENNER, a progressive and successful agriculturist of Muskegon County, and the owner of a well-improved farm on section 14, Laketon Township, was born in Prussia, Germany, August 2, 1842. He is a son of Michael Fenner, likewise a native of Prussia, who engaged in milling in that country until 1840. At that time he emigrated to the New World, and established his home in Milwaukee, Wis., whence, in 1865, he removed to Michigan and located in Newaygo. At present he resides in Muskegon, and is a prominent and highly-respected citizen of the place. His wife, the mother of our subject, bore the maiden name of Minnie Seymour, and died at the age of thirty-six years.

The eldest of six children, our subject was six years of age when he accompanied his father to America. Here he grew to manhood and learned the trade of a stone-mason, at the same time also working at the carpenter's trade. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of Company F, Twenty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry, and participating in a number of desperate engagements as well as many minor skirmishes. Entering the army as a private in the ranks, he was promoted for gallantry and meritorious conduct to the Captaincy, but refused to accept the office. While in active service he was wounded in the hip and the right knee, and was sunstruck on two separate occasions.

After receiving his discharge at Brownsville, Tex., our subject returned to his old home in

Wisconsin for a short time. In 1865 he came to Muskegon, and a few years afterward located on his present farm. About four acres had been improved, but there was no house on the place, and one of his first improvements was the erection of a small log house, where for a number of years he made his home. As the result of his untiring exertions, he has placed the two hundred and forty acres comprising the estate under the best cultivation, and it now ranks among the finest farms of the township. In addition to farming, he has engaged in lumbering, and has also worked as foreman in charge of large forces of workmen.

Upon national issues, Mr. Fenner is a Democrat, but in local matters casts his ballot for the best man and the best principles, irrespective of politics. He has held a number of the school offices, and has also served as Highway Commissioner and in other township offices. While he maintains a deep interest in public affairs, yet his time and labors are given principally to the welfare of his family and the promotion of the interests of his children. To them he has given every advantage in his power, and for them both he and his wife have worked untiringly. His marriage took place in December, 1870, his wife being Miss Catherine Lachman, a native of Michigan. They are the parents of eleven children, all of whom were born on the Fenner homestead: John L., Fred, Louie, George, Alfred, Charles, William, Minnie, Lizzie, Kittie and Anna.



**A**LBERT G. VANDEN BERG, proprietor of a meat-market in Grand Haven, began business in this line in 1886. He is one of the sons of the Netherlands. His birth occurred in Holland in 1838, and his father, Peter Vanden Berg, was a native of the same country. The latter emigrated to America in 1847, spent two years in Chicago, and then removed to Holland, Mich., where he resided until 1853, which year witnessed his arrival in Grand Haven. He ac-

cepted the position of lighthouse keeper at the entrance to the harbor, and thus served for six years. He became widely and favorably known in this community, and for a number of years held the office of Justice of the Peace. He died in Zeeland, Ottawa County, Mich., in August, 1867, respected by all who knew him. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Dena Kampherbeek, was also a native of Holland, and died in Grand Haven in 1864.

Our subject spent the first eight years of his life in the land of his nativity, and then accompanied his parents on their emigration to America, removing with them to Chicago, where the father worked in a silk factory for two years. Albert attended the common schools for a time, and then began sailing on the Lakes, following that life for a number of years. At length he left the water, and, coming to Grand Haven, established himself in business in 1886 as proprietor of a meat-market, which he has since conducted successfully. Besides his business, he owns several good pieces of town property.

On the 6th of November, 1859, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Vander Berg and Miss Joanna Hoffman, a native of the Netherlands, who came to America in 1817, at the age of four years, her father being an early settler of Holland, Mich. Nine children have been born of the union, seven sons and two daughters, viz.: Martin D., a graduate of the Dental College of Ann Arbor, Mich., now engaged in the practice of dentistry in Grand Rapids; John H., who also graduated from the same school; Peter U., a student in the Medical College of Ann Arbor; Marie Joanna, who graduated from the High School of Grand Haven, and is now a teacher of this city; Dena, who occupies a position as book-keeper; Albert G., who aids his father in the meat-market; Lawrence H., a student in the High School; and Frank and George, who also attend school. The parents are devoted and faithful members of the Second Reformed Church of Grand Haven, and take an active interest in everything that tends to promote its growth and upbuilding.

In his political affiliations Mr. Vander Berg is a Democrat, and has been called upon to serve in

several public positions of honor and trust. For four years he was a member of the School Board, was City Marshal for four years, and for twelve years served as Deputy Sheriff. In all these positions he discharged his duties with a promptness and fidelity that won him the commendation of all concerned and led to his many re-elections. His fellow-townsmen recognize in him a valued citizen, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life, knowing that it will be received with interest by many.



**O**LIVER B. CARR. To be a successful agriculturist, it is necessary to possess a strong physique, great endurance, a clear head and wise judgment. These qualities, combined with patient perseverance, will almost invariably bring to their possessor a large measure of prosperity. Of Mr. Carr it may be said that these traits are all his, and to them he is indebted for the success already won in the realm of agriculture. He has had many difficulties to encounter, but with true American determination and "grit," he has bravely surmounted each obstacle presenting itself.

One of the most beautiful spots in all Muskegon County is located in Eggleston Township and is the homestead of Mr. Carr. In the midst of a lovely grove of tall pine trees stands the cozy and commodious residence, seeming in the summer to sleep in the shadow of the foliage, while in the winter the tall pines stand like sentinels guarding the cottage and its inmates. A short distance from the residence is Wolf Lake, a delightful body of water, whose beauty is scarcely surpassed by any of the small lakes in northern Michigan. Its crystal depths abound with bass, perch and other varieties of the finny tribe.

For detailed information regarding the parentage and ancestry of our subject, the reader is referred to the sketch of William Carr, which is presented on another page of this volume. Oliver

B. Carr was born in Sheboygan County, Wis., November 24, 1853, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Plum) Carr, natives of Saratoga County, N. Y. He spent his youth and early manhood at home until his father's death in 1890. Since that time he has conducted farming operations for himself on the old homestead, which embraces one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land, embellished with a large barn and other substantial structures.

September 18, 1891, Mr. Carr was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (Hoffman) Clark, daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth Hoffman, natives of Germany. One child has blessed the union, Frederick, who was born September 2, 1892. Socially, Mr. Carr is a member of the Masonic order, Lodge No. 140, at Muskegon, of which his father was the oldest member. He has filled a number of prominent positions within the gift of his fellow-citizens, and served as Township Clerk in 1890 and 1891. He is possessed of many generous qualities, and is always ready and willing to encourage every worthy enterprise. His domestic life is one of happiness, and the hospitality of the little home amid the pines is well known.



**M**ARTIN WALSH, a leading merchant and Postmaster of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, is a native of the Emerald Isle. He was born in Galloway County, Ireland, November 9, 1831, and is a son of Patrick and Winnefred Walsh, who were also natives of the same land. They were farming people, and in the usual manner of farmer lads our subject passed his early boyhood and youth, the private schools affording him his educational privileges. After leaving school he was apprenticed to a tanner and served a four-years term, after which he followed that business during the remainder of his residence in the land of his birth. Bidding good-bye to home and friends he sailed for the New World

in 1854, landing in New York City, and going thence to Oneida County, N. Y., where he remained two years. In 1856, we find him in Chicago, and in the fall of the same year he came to Spring Lake, where he remained until the breaking out of the late war.

On the 4th of October, 1861, Mr. Walsh was made a Commissary of the Fourteenth Michigan Infantry and assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, serving as such until August 8, 1863, when he was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant. On the 14th of March, 1865, he was commissioned First Lieutenant and Quartermaster, thus serving until mustered out on the 18th of July following. He was always found at his post of duty, and his adopted land found in him an able defender.

When the country no longer needed his services, Mr. Walsh returned to Spring Lake, cleared a farm and began fruit-raising, which he has since successfully followed. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of good land, of which forty acres are in fruit, mainly grapes and berries, which he cultivates extensively. He has shipped as high as eighteen hundred cases of berries to Milwaukee in one season, and this branch of his business has proved a profitable one. In 1867, he built a store in Spring Lake, where he carried on merchandising for twelve years. He was then burned out, but with characteristic energy he rebuilt, and his general merchandise store is now one of the leading establishments of the kind in Spring Lake. He carries a large and fine stock of goods and has built up an excellent trade, so that he is now doing a flourishing business.

Turning from the public to the private life of Mr. Walsh, we note that in 1858 he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Lee, of Spring Lake, a native of Ireland and a daughter of John Lee. She died October 11, 1887, leaving five children, as follows: Winnifred, wife of D. O. Watson, of Spring Lake; John, Joseph, Elizabeth and William. In January, 1889, Mr. Walsh was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Donnell, of Muskegon. Their union has been blessed by two children, Dion and Edward.

Our subject exercises his right of franchise in

support of the Democratic party, of which he is a warm advocate. He served as President of the School Board of Spring Lake for several years and in 1893 was appointed by President Cleveland to the office of Postmaster, which position he is now acceptably and faithfully filling. Socially, he is a member of the Royal Arcanum, and of Perkins Post No. 279, G. A. R. He is a public-spirited and progressive man and has the best interests of his adopted city at heart. He gives his support to all worthy public enterprises and does all in his power to advance the general welfare. He is always faithful to every trust, and whether in business, official or social life, he is ever an honorable, upright man, worthy the high esteem in which he is held.



GILBERT CHADDOCK, who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Muskegon, is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Genesee County April 30, 1827, and is a son of Joseph and Polly (Terry) Chaddock, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Massachusetts. The Chaddock family is of English descent, and the Terry family is of Welsh origin. The maternal grandfather, Hiram Terry, was a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

The Doctor spent his boyhood days in the State of his nativity, and acquired his literary education in the public schools. Wishing to enter the medical profession, he began studying with Dr. W. Sawens, of Orleans County, N. Y., and subsequently took a course of study in the Geneva Medical College. He then attended the University of Buffalo, from which he was graduated in 1853; he later spent seven years in Toledo, and in 1860 he engaged in the practice of his chosen profession in Hillsdale, Mich. During the following year he entered the army as a surgeon, and was assigned to the Third Brigade, Second Division, Second Corps. There he did faithful service, remaining with his command during the remainder of the war.

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LUMAN JENISON

In 1879 Dr. Chaddock came to Muskegon, Mich., where he has since engaged in the practice of his profession. He possesses skill and ability as a physician, and as the result of his merit he has succeeded in building up a large practice, which is well deserved.

In 1860 the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Anna Sinclair, who was then living in Toledo, Ohio, but is a native of Brooklyn, N. Y. Their union has been blessed with one son, Charles G. The Doctor has always been a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and one who manifests an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community in which he makes his home. He gives his support and co-operation to all worthy enterprises, and his aid is never withheld from an object that he believes will prove of public benefit. He has always been a close student of his profession, keeps abreast with all the discoveries and theories connected with the science, and has achieved an enviable reputation, receiving from the public a patronage which yields him a good income.



**L**UMAN JENISON, in whose honor the village of Jenison was named, and who is the most prominent citizen of that thriving town, has extensive and valuable real-estate interests in various portions of the State, and may properly be termed one of the eminent men of Michigan. His ancestors were for several generations residents of the Green Mountain State, where his father, Lemuel, and his grandfather, Josiah, were both born. The first-named was there married to Miss Sarah Sanderson, and shortly afterward removed to New York, becoming a pioneer of St. Lawrence County.

In the fall of 1834 Lemuel Jenison became a resident of Michigan, and after a very short sojourn in Ann Arbor came to Kent County, settling in a pinery three miles south of Grandville. Here he assisted his cousin, N. J. Brown, in the

erection of a sawmill, and afterward cut logs and did other pioneer work, making his home in that locality for two years. From there he removed to Georgetown Township and located on section 24, where he purchased an unimproved tract of land and made his home. Three years after going to that place he was killed by a falling tree. His wife passed away June 26, 1841. They were the parents of a large family of children, three of whom are now living, Luman and Lucius (twins) and Betsey. The latter married Benjamin S. Hanchett, of Grand Rapids, and became the mother of three children: Lizzie, Benjamin S., Jr., and Castella, Mrs. Priestley, who died in 1879.

In St. Lawrence County, N. Y., our subject was born April 25, 1823. He attended school occasionally prior to the age of eleven, but afterward had no educational advantages, excepting such as he gained by self-culture and observation. He accompanied his parents to Michigan, and as the family was in reduced circumstances he was obliged to aid in the maintenance of the other children. In 1842 he commenced to traffic with the Hollanders, and met with unexpected success, meantime also operating the home farm.

Having accumulated a small amount of money, Mr. Jenison purchased sixteen hundred acres where the village of Jenison now stands, paying twelve shillings per acre for the property. As the water power was excellent and the facilities for milling all that could be desired, he built a mill, and for twenty years superintended its management. In 1863 he tore down the old sawmill and began preparations for his present fine flour-mill, which was finished in the fall of 1864. This mill has a capacity of fifty barrels, is furnished with six rollers and all the modern conveniences, and cost when completed \$18,000. Steady employment is given to a force of five hands.

Upon the second water power, located a little below the first, Mr. Jenison built a steam sawmill, where he now employs twenty-five or thirty men. This mill also contains first-class modern improvements and cost \$15,000. Although his milling interests are extensive and have demanded his close attention, he has also found time for other large enterprises. For ten years he conducted a

general store, doing an annual business of \$25,000, and carrying a stock valued at \$6,000. He also owns and operates a factory, machine-shop and foundry, where he manufactures railroad gates, crossings, frogs, switches, switch stands, radiators, etc. The plant is worth \$25,000, and employment is furnished to a large number of men.

Mr. Jenison is the owner of a large boarding-house in Jenison, and a blacksmith shop. He superintends the management of two hundred acres of farming land near the village of Jenison, on which he usually raises large crops of hay. He is the owner of four hundred and eighty acres where Jenison now stands, and also owns fifteen of the buildings in the village. His property interests in other places include the ownership of the Day Plaster Mill at Grandville, valued at \$30,000; the flour and feed store at Grandville, as well as an elegant residence in that city; a large amount of real estate at Grand Rapids; forty acres on Fisk Lake, upon which improvements have been placed amounting to \$15,000, the property itself being worth \$40,000; eight and one-fourth acres on Reed's Lake, valued at \$15,000; twenty lots on the west side of Grand Rapids, the estimated value of which is \$20,000; nine hundred acres of land in Blendon Township, Ottawa County; and the home farm of two hundred and sixty acres, of which two hundred acres have been brought to a high state of cultivation.

Upon his homestead Mr. Jenison platted the cemetery which bears his name and around which he has placed an iron fence costing \$1,100. Here all the deceased members of his father's family lie buried, and here he and his twin brother (who has been associated with him in all his business enterprises) are building a mausoleum, to cost at completion \$12,000. It is constructed of Barre granite, and contains the family name in raised letters upon the front. The dimensions of the base are 16x18 feet, and the height is fifteen and one-half feet. The sarcophagus will contain the inscription, in sunken letters, "Built and designed by J. E. Harrison & Son, Adrian, Mich." The floor is inlaid with a neat pattern of black and white marble tile, with black border. The wainscoting is of red Tennessee marble, while the walls are of light

veined Italian marble. There is a frieze of light cream and blue enameled tiles, and the ceiling is finished in white veined Italian marble. The sarcophagi, two in number, are composed of light Italian marble, properly inscribed. The inside doors are of granite, with fixtures of standard copper bronze. The guards are strong brass tubes, each containing a bar of steel.

The career of these twin brothers has in many respects been identical. Both started poor in purse but rich in hope, and both have worked their way steadily onward and upward to positions of prominence in the State. Both have remained unmarried, content to live the independent, though lonely, life of bachelors. Both are Democratic in party principle, voting for the candidates of that party at every local or national election. Lucius gives his exclusive attention to the home farm, while Luman looks after the other large and valuable interests. Both are generous, kind-hearted and philanthropic, and contribute liberally to every worthy enterprise. Our subject gave \$1,000 to the Universalist Church at Grand Rapids upon the occasion of the building of the new edifice, and has also contributed generously to other religious projects. During the late war he paid out \$800 to secure substitutes for a number of poor men who had been drafted into the army. Socially, he affiliates with the Masonic fraternity.



**W**ALTER B. MORRISON, M. D., a popular family physician and surgeon of wide experience, has been engaged for the past twenty-eight years in the active discharge of professional duties in the city of Muskegon, Mich., and the near vicinity, his practice extending over a large territory of patients, old and new. Our subject is a native of the Wolverine State and was born in Grand Rapids May 6, 1838. His father, Jefferson Morrison, a native of New York,

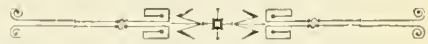


early emigrated to the West, in 1831 joining the pioneer settlers of Michigan and making his home in Grand Rapids, where he pursued a mercantile business and yet resides, widely known and highly respected by his large acquaintance of many years' standing. The mother, Caroline A. (Gill) Morrison, likewise a native of Michigan, was born in Port Huron, and was reared, educated and married within easy distance of her birthplace. Dr. Morrison passed the days of boyhood in Grand Rapids and attended the excellent public schools of his home, laying the broad foundations of a more extended education. He prepared for college in the High School, and in 1858 began reading medicine with Dr. D. W. Bliss.

Dr. Bliss was then a prominent physician of Grand Rapids, but later, removing to Washington, D. C., attained to eminence and was brought before the public in connection with the fatal illness of President Garfield, whom he attended, caring for the terrible wound whose frightful consequence filled a nation with mourning. After reading medicine for two years, our subject entered the University at Ann Arbor and took a course of lectures. In 1861 Dr. Morrison, animated by patriotism, enlisted in Company K, Third Michigan Infantry, and was commissioned Assistant Surgeon of the regiment, under the command of Col. Daniel McConnell, and assigned to the Army of the Potomac. Our subject actively participated in the battles of Gettysburg, Fair Oaks, both battles of Bull Run, and the Wilderness, and, having served under Grant, was mustered out in June, 1864, at Washington, D. C., then going into the hospital service in Washington. After the close of the war Dr. Morrison studied in the Long Island College Hospital, and, graduating in the latter part of 1865, received his diploma and degree of M. D. The latter part of the same year our subject came to Muskegon and opened the office where he has since continued to conduct successfully a general practice, although always paying especial attention to surgical operations.

During all these years keeping even pace with the advancement in the medical world, Dr. Morrison is a leading member of the Muskegon Medical As-

sociation, and is well posted in the latest remedial appliances. Fraternaly associated with Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M., our subject was Master of the same for two years. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, and has a host of friends within these honored orders. For six years Dr. Morrison was Surgeon of the West Michigan Railroad, and gave most efficient and valuable service to the corporation. Politically a pronounced Democrat, he is deeply interested in local and national issues, but is in no sense of the word a politician, his time being devoted to the duties of his large practice. In 1871 our subject was married to Miss Harriet E. Moore, a native of Allegany County, N. Y., and a lady of worth and accomplishments. Mrs. Morrison is the daughter of Hiram Moore, a man of prominence in the Empire State. The attractive residence of Dr. and Mrs. Morrison, well known to the general public, is located upon First Street, Muskegon, and is surrounded by the homes of many of the leading citizens.



**O**LIVER P. GORDON. Among the public-spirited and successful farmers of Ottawa County the name of Mr. Gordon, of Crocker-Township, stands foremost. For many years a resident of his present farm, he has succeeded in bringing it to a high state of cultivation, and has embellished it with a set of substantial buildings adapted to rural use. At the time of its purchase, about 1861, the property contained eighty-eight acres of wild land, upon which scarcely a furrow had been turned, and the improvements now noticeable are the result of the indefatigable exertions of Mr. Gordon.

In Clinton County, N. Y., in the township of Plattsburg, the subject of this biographical sketch was born July 13, 1826. His father, William Gordon, was born in Connecticut, and in early manhood enlisted as a soldier in the American army during the War of 1812. By occupation he was

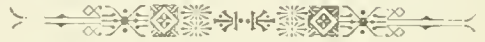
a farmer, and he also followed the trade of a carpenter, at which he met with fair success. A man of energy and enterprise, his death, which occurred in New York when our subject was a lad of fourteen, was widely mourned, and it was felt that one of the most capable and honorable men of the locality had passed to his final reward. On his father's side he was of English descent, while his mother was a Scotchwoman. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Annie Trambliet, was born in France and died in New York, after having borne her husband nine children.

The third in respect to age is the subject of this sketch. He was reared in Clinton County, N. Y., where in childhood he gained a rudimentary education in the common schools. Being obliged to assist in the support of the family, his attendance at school after he was ten years of age was limited to two months. On the 21st of August, 1851, he was united in marriage with Miss Cornelia E. Breau, who was born in Clinton County, N. Y., being the daughter of Peter and Esther Breau, natives respectively of France and England. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon were the parents of eleven children, one of whom is deceased. They are, Willard E., Etta A., George, Belle, Harry, Frederick, Ella, Mabel, Richard, Grace and Flora. Richard is deceased.

For a period of twelve years Mr. Gordon worked at the trade of a millwright in Clinton County, N. Y. In the fall of 1855 he came to Michigan and located at Lamont, where he resided for a time. About 1861 he purchased his present property, to the cultivation of which he has since given his attention. He has succeeded in clearing the entire tract, with the exception of about six acres. The farm is located ten miles from Grand Haven and one and one-half miles southwest of the village of Nunica. It is through economy and industry that Mr. Gordon has achieved success as an agriculturist, and to these qualities, combined with energy, he owes his prosperity.

A Republican in political affairs, Mr. Gordon has been identified with that party ever since its organization, and is one of its leaders in his community. His first Presidential ballot was cast in 1848.

For a number of terms he has served as Deputy Sheriff, and has also been Highway Commissioner, filling these positions with ability and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents.



**L**ARS SORENSON, a well-known agriculturist of Holton Township, Muskegon County, who resides on section 23, claims Denmark as the land of his birth, which occurred in the year 1812. He is a son of Soren and Hannah (Larson) Johnson. His father was a wagon-maker by trade, and followed that business in his early life, but through many years carried on farming. Of his family of eleven children the following survive: Caroline, who is the wife of John Anderson; Mary, wife of Christian Sorenson; Greatt, who is now the wife of Chris Nelson; Treana, wife of John Larson; Paulina, wife of Chris Johnson; and Lars, of this sketch. All these came to the United States. The parents of this family were members of the Lutheran Church. The father died in 1866, at the age of sixty-eight years. His widow still survives him, and is now living in this country at the age of seventy-five.

In his native land our subject acquired a limited education in the public schools, and was there reared to manhood. No event of special importance occurred during his youth, much of which was spent in arduous labor. He served in the Prussian War in 1864, and during the remainder of the time worked at farm labor. Having arrived at man's estate, he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Stena Johnson, their union being celebrated in Denmark. Ere leaving their native land one child was born unto them, a son, John.

It was in 1872 that Mr. Sorenson bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed with his family for the New World. Crossing the Atlantic, he landed in New York, and at once made his way to Michigan, locating in Holton Township, Muskegon County. Here he secured work on a railroad,

and for one year was employed as a farm hand. Eight years of his life were then passed in the employ of Blodgett & Byrns. Practicing strict economy and carefulness during that time, he was enabled to purchase forty acres of land. Subsequently he bought another tract of forty acres, later an additional forty-acre tract, and at his next purchase became the owner of sixty acres more. He now has seventy acres under a high state of cultivation, and his farm is well improved with all the modern accessories and conveniences.

Since coming to this country, the union of our subject and his wife has been blessed with two children: Emma, who died at the age of a year and a-half; and Hans, who is still with his parents. Mr. Sorenson is giving both of his sons good educational advantages, thus fitting them for the practical and responsible duties of life. The elder is a graduate of the Commercial College of Big Rapids, and the younger is now a student at the same school. The parents and their family are members of the Lutheran Church, and all are highly respected people, who have many warm friends throughout the community. Our subject exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party. He has lived a frugal and industrious life, and as the result of his good management and well-directed efforts, he has acquired a comfortable competence, and need never have occasion to regret his emigration to the New World.



**B.** CHURCH, an influential resident of Muskegon County, and a successful agriculturist of Laketon Township, owning and operating a farm on section 2, was born in Lysander, Onondaga County, N. Y., April 16, 1821. His father, Marvil, and his grandfather, Silas Church, were both natives of Vermont, where the latter passed his entire active life. The former, who was a carpenter and joiner by trade, removed in an early day to New York and followed his chosen occupation at various places in the Empire

State. He there married Miss Martha, daughter of John Snetten, and a native of New York, her ancestors being German.

The eldest of nine children, the subject of this sketch accompanied his father in his various removals, and resided in New York State until he was eighteen. Coming to Michigan with his father in 1839, he worked at the trade of a carpenter in Boston Township, Ionia County, where he resided for many years. In 1841 he was united in marriage with Miss Delia Train, who was born and reared in Tunbridge, Vt. Their congenial union has been one of mutual helpfulness and aid, and they have worked side by side for the welfare of their family. They have been the parents of nine children, as follows: Horace, who enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War, and died while in active service; Eustice E., who resides on the old homestead in Boston Township, Ionia County, and is one of the most prominent men of the county; Louisa, wife of Joseph Baine, a resident of Petoskey, Mich.; Frances E., who married Colborn Osgood and makes her home in Hastings, this State; Calvin, who lives in Galesburg, Mich.; Dayton M., who married Miss Ella Curtis and resides with his parents in Laketon Township; George G., of Grand Haven, Mich.; Jarvis T., deceased; and Kittie, who passed away when ten months old. The children who attained mature years were the recipients of excellent educational advantages, and they are all prominent citizens of their various communities.

After his marriage Mr. Church settled on a farm in Boston Township, Ionia County, where for thirty-eight years he engaged in tilling the soil, and where now his eldest son conducts agricultural operations. He brought the land under excellent cultivation and embellished the place with a set of substantial buildings. In 1879 he removed to Kent County, Mich., where he resided for a number of years. His residence in Laketon Township, Muskegon County, dates from the year 1887. Here he and his wife own a farm, comprising two hundred acres of finely-improved land, on which he engages in raising the various cereals adapted to this section of the State.

Since the organization of the Republican party,

Mr. Church has been identified with it, giving his support to its principles and candidates. Prior to that, he had been a Whig. For six successive years he served as a Highway Commissioner in Ionia County, and he also occupied other local positions, in all of which he served with fidelity and loyalty the interests of the people.



**A**NTHONY JASPER. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch and who is now successfully engaged in that calling which has received the attention of man since the world began—farming—comes of sturdy, thrifty and honest German stock, and he himself was born in the Old Country, at Barton, on the 29th of March, 1833, his parents being Michael and Theresa Jasper, industrious people and fairly well-to-do in worldly goods. In 1846 the parents decided to come to America, and braving the then long and toilsome, as well as dangerous, ocean voyage with their sons, they landed at New York City in due time, but only remained there a very short time, rightly judging that the West offered them better inducements than the already populous Eastern States. They took up their residence in Wisconsin, but lived to enjoy their new home only a short time, leaving three sons, from thirteen to twenty years of age, to earn their living as best they could among strangers and in a strange land. Of these sons, Frank, the second-born, went to Colorado in 1849, and was living there when last heard from; Frederick resided in Wisconsin for three years after the death of his father, then went West and was never afterward heard from; and Anthony is the immediate subject of this memoir.

Two years after the death of his father, Anthony made his way Southward, and in 1846 found himself in Ottawa County, Mich., with but \$18 in his pocket, a total stranger to all within its borders. He, however, possessed the dogged perseverance

and energy for which the German people have always been noted, and was not at all discouraged by the fact that his capital was small, his knowledge of the country and its people was limited, and that he was without employment and a mere boy—only fifteen years of age. He soon succeeded in obtaining employment in the logging camps at \$13 per month, and although the work was very laborious it brought him a living, and he continued to follow it for one year. He then began making shingles on shares at \$2 per thousand, and being quick and energetic he succeeded in accumulating quite a goodly sum of money, which he put aside for a "rainy day." Later he received for his work \$2.50 per thousand. During the most of this time he was very much troubled with chills and fever, but he kept manfully at his work, and in time overcame this drawback to early civilization.

In 1857 he purchased with money earned by his own unceasing efforts the farm on which he is now living, which then amounted to eighty acres of heavily-timbered land. This timber he felled and logged to the river, where he peeled the most of it, selling the bark for from \$2 to \$5.50 per cord, and using the timber to make his barns, out-houses and residence, which was a two-story structure containing ten rooms, a fine residence for those days. He has since increased his farm to one hundred and twenty acres, eighty acres of which are under a fine state of cultivation, and show a thrift, neatness and pleasing appearance generally that show at once what manner of man is the owner. Mr. Jasper has been married twice, first in 1858 to Charlotte Boosenbork, of Waterloo County, N. Y., to which union three children were given: Frank, Alice and Walter, the latter being deceased. Mrs. Jasper died in 1865, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the following year Mr. Jasper married Mrs. Phoebe Smith, *nee* Durham, of Seneca County, N. Y., a daughter of William Durham, and this union has resulted in the birth of five children: Charles, Carrie, Warren, Fannie and May. Mrs. Jasper is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Mr. Jasper is a stockholder in the creamery at Alendale Center, which is the largest one in the

county. The German way of spelling his name was Jarsper, but upon becoming a citizen of the United States he began spelling it the English way and has so continued ever since.



**T**HOMAS B. WIDOE, a practical clothing merchant, prosperously conducting one of the largest establishments in his line of trade in Muskegon County, Mich., has for many years been a prominent and prosperous resident of Whitehall, of which village he is an efficient Trustee, widely known and highly esteemed. Our subject was born in Gilead, Ohio, November 12, 1858, and was the youngest child of the late John Widoe, born in Pennsylvania, and the second eldest of four brothers. The paternal grandfather, by birth a German, became a citizen of the United States early in life, making his home in the Quaker State. His eldest son Stephen, a farmer by occupation, journeyed to Ohio, and died in that State many years ago. Leonard was an officer in the army during the Civil War. Later he settled in Grand Rapids, and, an expert in handling tools, established a machine shop and accumulated quite a large fortune. He passed away in Grand Rapids many years ago. Jesse L., after giving faithful service as a soldier, at the close of the Civil War settled in Grand Rapids and became the successful proprietor of a flouring-mill. He was extensively engaged in speculation in real estate and lost two or three fortunes before his death in Grand Rapids in 1887. Catherine, the eldest daughter of the grandfather, married Jacob Harnish, an energetic farmer near Grand Rapids, and now lives at Grandville, Mich.

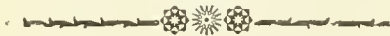
The father, John Widoe, left home when only fifteen years of age, and learned the stove-moulder's trade. From that time he was his own master and thoroughly self-reliant, but his education was necessarily limited. From his birthplace the father went to Gilead, Knox County, Ohio, and following his trade made an excellent living.

Twice married, he had as issue of the first union a son and a daughter. The son, George Widoe, is a man of high cultivation, and an eloquent preacher of Ohio. The daughter, Mary, married a celebrated wood-carver, one of the finest in the country, and with her husband is located in Ohio. After the death of the mother of these two children the father married Mrs. Susan Shults, a widow with two children. Kate married Edward F. Wadleigh, a carpenter, who died in Whitehall, leaving his widow and one child, Gertrude, now with her mother in their old home. Edward Shults went to Ashley, Wis., and there, marrying, settled on a farm, and financially prospered has amassed a competence, and is enabled to provide liberally for his large family of children. The marriage of John and Susan (Shults) Widoe was blessed by the birth of three children, two sons and one daughter. John F., the eldest, when sixteen years of age had charge of his father's clothing store at Montague, and since 1873 has been in the clothing business in Hart. He is a man of superior business ability and one of the most successful merchants in this part of the State. He married Miss Cora Eastman, and has one child, a daughter, Iva.

Ida E. Widoe, a sister of our subject, married James J. Gee, a wealthy hardware merchant of Whitehall. Thomas B. was the youngest of the family. The father, after working some time at his trade in Ohio, engaged in the grocery business. Arriving in Michigan in about 1861, he settled in Ionia, where he devoted himself to the clothing business with the most profitable results, but at the end of a twelvemonth removed to Grand Rapids. In the latter city he handled clothing for nine years, and also operated a store at Montague, managed by his son John F. In 1871, the store at Grand Rapids was burned out, the greater part of the stock being a total loss. The father then removed to Whitehall and with enterprise resumed business, which he carried on until about two years before his death, in 1890. Politically, John Widoe, Sr., was a Democrat, but never sought office. He was, fraternally, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and, universally respected, was deeply mourned when he passed from among the community where his

genial presence had so long been a familiar one. The mother, yet surviving, resides in Whitehall.

Thomas B. Widoe enjoyed excellent educational advantages, attending the schools of Grand Rapids and Whitehall, and completing his studies with a course of instruction in a business college. Soon after reaching twenty years of age our subject began clerking in his father's store in Whitehall and later became a partner. Immediately succeeding his father's retirement from active duties, in 1888, Mr. Widoe associated himself with the Hon. H. E. Staples in the same business. Energetic, ambitious and enterprising, he has made a financial success of his work in life. In 1880, Thomas B. Widoe and Miss Jennie E. Basom were united in marriage. Mrs. Widoe, an accomplished lady, is the niece of Hon. H. E. Staples, who reared and educated her. Two of the three children born unto this union now survive. Hiram D., the eldest, died at the age of three years. Edna May is six years old. Thomas Russell has just passed his first birthday. Our subject is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, fraternally, is prominently connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, being the present master of the Blue Lodge at Whitehall and a member of the Muskegon Chapter and Commandery. Politically, Mr. Widoe is a strong Democrat and is widely known as a liberal-spirited man, generous in his impulses and ever ready to do his full share in all matters of general welfare.



**L**EWIS W. GILL. Many years have come and gone since a little home in New York was brightened by the birth of a first-born child. Nearly four-score summers have come with their flowers and fruits, and as many winters with their frosts and snows, and time in its flight has seen the child grow into the sturdy lad, the manly youth, the successful farmer and the venerable man. Now in the twilight of his useful life, he can look upon the past without remorse, and upon

the future without fear. The heritage of an honorable life, unspotted by aught that would mar its purity, such will descend as his legacy to his posterity.

Madison County, N. Y., was the birthplace of Mr. Gill, and September 4, 1817, the date of his birth. He was the eldest child of Samuel and Sarah (Plum) Gill, natives of Massachusetts. During the opening years of the present century, the schools of the Empire State were primitive both in appearance and in mode of instruction, the houses being rudely constructed of logs, with puncheon floors and slab benches upheld by wooden pins; apertures in the wall covered with greased paper answered the purpose of windows, and the chimney was made of mud and sticks. The textbooks were few in number, consisting principally of the old-fashioned "blue-back" spelling book, the Testament, and an arithmetic, from which the pupil learned to figure. Amid such surroundings as these, our subject gained his primary knowledge of the "three R's," but the information there obtained has been since supplemented by careful and systematic reading upon all subjects of general interest.

At the age of about twenty years, Lewis W. Gill commenced in active life for himself, and for a time followed the occupation of a farmer in the Empire State. Thence, in 1857, he removed to Michigan, and, coming to Ottawa County, settled upon the farm where he has since made his home. He cleared the land, improved the farm, and gradually introduced first-class improvements, thereby greatly enhancing the value of the place. He now conducts general farming upon the forty acres which he has placed under cultivation. He is a man of prominence in his community, and in politics affiliates with the Democrats. His fellow-citizens have chosen him to represent them in various positions of responsibility, and in all of these posts of duty he has served with efficiency and success. While filling the position of Roadmaster, he was enabled to contribute materially to the promotion of the best interests of the township, and the line roads here are due in no small measure to his labors.

The marriage of Mr. Gill occurred in 1841, and united him with Miss Lydia Eddy, who at that

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time resided in Wyoming County, N. Y. This venerable couple celebrated their golden wedding on the 7th of October, 1891, at which time they were the recipients of the congratulations of hosts of warm personal friends, to whom they had endeared themselves during all the years of their residence in this locality. They have been the parents of three children, two of whom are now living. Ophelia became the wife of McMaster Bryant, and makes her home in Cooper, Kalamazoo County, this State. Amelia married Richard Chapel, and resides in Ottawa County.



**R**OELOF VENEKLASEN, interested in an extensive brickyard in Zeeland, and one of the successful men of Ottawa County, was born on section 23, Holland Township, this county, June 10, 1856, being a son of Berend J. and Albertje (Weurding) Veneklasen. His paternal grandfather, John H., was a son of John Veneklasen, a farmer residing in Overschie, Holland, who was twice married, by his first union becoming the father of two sons and one daughter, and by his second marriage having four sons and one daughter.

In Holland, the land of his birth, John H. Veneklasen followed the trade of a brickmaker. In the spring of 1817 he emigrated to the United States, and after a voyage of thirty-seven days landed at Baltimore, on the 22d of April. During the latter part of May he reached Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., and at once made a settlement on section 27, where he purchased forty acres. He gave his attention to clearing the land and tilling the soil, and met with success, being the owner of sixty acres at the time of his death, December 15, 1877. Politically, he was a Democrat, firm in his allegiance to party principles. He aided in the organization of the Reformed Church, of which he was a prominent member.

Unto John H. Veneklasen and his good wife, whose maiden name was Alice Van Linger, were born three sons and five daughters who lived to maturity, viz.: Berend J., Johannas, Gertrude, Hendreka, Jenneke, Peter, Dickje and Jane. At the present time three sons and two daughters are living. The mother passed away August 12, 1817, at the age of forty-five. The father of our subject was born June 24, 1828, and accompanied his parents to the United States, settling with them in Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., where he received a fair education. For a short time he worked in a brickyard at Allegan, and later spent one summer at Grand Haven, where he engaged in loading vessels.

In 1849 Berend J. Veneklasen opened a brickyard in connection with his father, and during the first year manufactured fifty thousand bricks. In 1892 the firm was under the name of the Zeeland Brick Company, which now has yards at Zeeland, Cloverdale and Hamilton, having two at the first-named place. Employment is given to a large number of men, varying from fifty in the dull season to two hundred in the busy season. The yard is never closed, and the entire output aggregates twenty million of brick annually. The industry is one of the most flourishing in the county, and the success to which it has attained is the result of the untiring labors of the Vaneklasens, father and sons.

In politics, our subject's father is a Democrat, and on the ticket of his party has been elected to the position of President of the village, Highway Commissioner, and other places of trust, in all of which he has served with efficiency and success. In religious matters he is identified with the Reformed Church, to the support of which he is a generous contributor. He and his estimable wife are the parents of the following-named children: John, Roelof, Albertus, Henry, Peter, Benjamin, Albert, Garrett and Mary G. Hendreka is deceased. The mother of these children was born August 17, 1831, and is the daughter of Roelof and Alice (Boer) Weurding, who emigrated to the United States in 1849 and settled in Allegan County, Mich., Mr. Weurding becoming a farmer there.

During his youth the subject of this sketch at-

tended the Kalamazoo Business College, and was the recipient of good advantages. At the age of ten he commenced to work in his father's brickyard and has ever since been interested in the business, being the present Secretary and Treasurer of the company. The yards have an annual output of forty million bricks, common and pressed, and shipments are made to Chicago, Traverse City, Battle Creek, and other large places, where a ready sale is made at favorable prices. Though an active Democrat, Mr. Veneklasen has always refused official honors, preferring to devote his attention to his business. He is interested in educational matters, and has served as a member of the Board of Education. In religious preferences he affiliates with the Reformed Church.

November 29, 1879, Mr. Veneklasen was united in marriage with Miss Nellie Moerdyke, who was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., and is the daughter of James and Mary (Faas) Moerdyke, emigrants of 1849 from Zeeland, Holland. Mr. and Mrs. Vaneklasen are the parents of six children, viz.: Albertha, Mary M., Bernard J., James T., Jennie H. and Nellie Elida Elizabeth. The family occupies a prominent position in the social circles of the community, and is one of the foremost in the village.



**F**RANKLIN PIERCE STAMP, M. D., a successful general medical practitioner and skillful surgeon, enjoying the confidence of a wide acquaintance in Muskegon, Mich., is thoroughly at home in various details of his profession, and, taking a high place among his brother physicians, has won his upward way to an enviable position as a doctor and man of enterprise. Dr. Stamp is a native of the Wolverine State and was born in Cass County, March 23, 1853. His father, David F. Stamp, born in the Empire State, and a man of energy and ambitious purpose, early emigrated to the West, and was numbered among the pioneer settlers of Michigan, locating in Cass

County in 1832, when the country thereabout was literally a howling wilderness, infested with Indians and bands of wild game, which roamed at their pleasure through the dense timberland of the State. The home upon the frontier was near Mottville, and distant from neighbors, who were then few and far between. The paternal ancestors were sturdy Germans, who, crossing the Atlantic, settled in New York in a very early day in the history of the United States. The mother, in maidenhood Miss Amelia Hartman, was a native of Pennsylvania, her forefathers also being of German birth, and among the patriotic citizens who aided in the settlement of the Quaker State.

Dr. Stamp was reared in his birthplace, and when a little lad attended the common schools of Cass County. As he approached manhood, he determined to gain a profession, and to that end clerked in a drug store six years, at the same time devoting every spare moment to reading medicine. In the fall of 1873, he entered the University of Ann Arbor, and for two years gave his entire time to the study of his profession. He then returned to his former preceptor in Mottville, and practiced medicine for two years with gratifying results. In the spring of 1877 our subject, wishing to avail himself of every opportunity of increasing his stock of knowledge, and thereby more thoroughly fitting himself for his responsible work in life, matriculated at the Cincinnati Medical College, and graduated with honor from that institution the same year. Dr. Stamp immediately after winning his diploma began his professional career in Coopersville, Ottawa County, and remained in that locality until 1880, when he entered upon a steady and increasing round of practice in Muskegon. He at first devoted himself almost entirely to the cares of the family physician, but has of late made a specialty of surgery, and in this branch of his practice has gained an extended reputation.

Keeping himself fully abreast of the times, our subject was one of the charter members of the Western Michigan Medical Association, and is now Examining Surgeon for Union Tent No. 379, K. O. T. M. Dr. Stamp is likewise a member of St. Joseph Valley Lodge No. 56, at Mottville,

Cass County. He has also long been connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in these various orders as well among his professional acquaintance has a host of friends. In 1876, Franklin Pierce Stamp and Miss Maggie Bresnahan were united in marriage. Mrs. Stamp was a resident of Ottawa County, and a daughter of John Bresnahan, a native of Ireland. Two children, a son and daughter, Edward F. and Vernie A., blessed the union of our subject and his first wife. Dr. Stamp, marrying a second time, then wedded, April 26, 1893, his present wife, Miss Jennie Gillan, an accomplished lady and a native of Ontario, Canada. The handsome home, located on Western Avenue, is one of the pleasantest in the city and is well known to the residents of Muskegon and the surrounding neighborhood. Already professionally prospered, the increasing practice of our subject gives assurance of a still wider field of usefulness and testifies to the thorough appreciation of the general public.



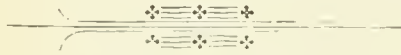
**F**RANK MANGOLD, an enterprising business man and experienced jeweler of Whitehall, Mich., is a native of the city of Freising, Bavaria, and was born April 2, 1849. His father, John Mangold, likewise a Bavarian, was born in Rheinpfalz in 1811. A saddler by trade, the father was for nearly forty years connected with the Bavarian army, serving in the First and Second Cavalry in the capacity of a saddler. He amassed quite a fortune, and died in 1888 in Rhempfalz, seventeen years after his retirement from the army on a life pension. The mother of our subject, Mary (Rohrmeier) Mangold, was born in Landshutt, Bavaria, and was the daughter of a carpenter. A brother of Mrs. Mangold, Caver Rohrmeier, was for many years a soldier in the Bavarian army, serving with rare bravery. The parents were blessed by the presence of four children, two sons and two daughters. Walburga, the eldest, married Henry Bold, a prominent merchant in

Hermesberg, where she died November 1, 1892, leaving no issue. Mary, the second sister, passed away when she was but fourteen years old. John, a shoemaker by trade, came to America in 1868, and is now a resident of Portland, Ore. The mother, at an advanced age, still makes her home in the Old Country.

At thirteen years of age Frank Mangold left school and went to Mosburg to learn the trade of a watch-maker. Having faithfully served an apprenticeship of three years, he located as a journeyman watch-maker in Erding, a small village not far from his birthplace. He remained there but a short time, next removing to Wurtemberg, on the Tech, in Baden. Later he settled in Furth, Bavaria, and afterward located in Pheffenhauser, from which place he finally departed for Freising. October 6, 1870, our subject entered the army, in the King of Bavaria's own regiment, and, enlisting as Corporal, was soon promoted to the position of Sergeant and as such courageously served until his discharge, July 31, 1873. Having distinguished himself by gallant conduct, Mr. Mangold is now the proud possessor of a medal, presented to him for bravery on the battle-field by the Bavarian general in the war with France, and which he will leave as a bequest to his heirs. After leaving the army in which he made so enviable a record, it did not take our subject long to decide upon trying his fortunes in the land of yet greater promise beyond the sea, and in October, 1873, he sailed from Havre for America. Reaching the United States in safety and landing in New York City, Mr. Mangold made but a brief stay in the Empire State, soon journeying to Michigan, his destination, being Montague, where his brother John had located five years previous.

Mr. Mangold at first opened a watch-shop, but spent only a short time in that line of trade, as he was then unable to make it pay. For several seasons he worked in the sawmills and in the lumber camps, and for five years received employment in a flourmill. In 1882, he again engaged in the jewelry business, opening a shop in Whitehall. This enterprise proved very successful, and since our subject has established a prosperous trade with excellent financial results, and is now the leading

jeweler in his locality. April 11, 1875, Frank Mangold and Miss Louisa Schrader were united in marriage. Seven children have brightened with their merry presence the pleasant home. The six sons and one daughter are in the order of their birth, John, Lonie, Frank, Albert, Emil, Henry and Hedwich, all of whom have received the advantage of the best educational facilities afforded in their locality. Politically, Mr. Mangold is a strong Democrat, but, without aspirations for public office, is content to do his duty at the polls. Fraternally, he is associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has been Noble Grand. Within these honored orders our subject has a host of friends and likewise commands the high respect and esteem of all who know him as a business man, neighbor and citizen.



**E**DWIN THATCHER, an agriculturist of Ravenna Township, and one of the most prominent citizens of Muskegon County, was born in Harford, Susquehanna County, Pa., March 28, 1825. His father, John, and his grandfather, John Thatcher, Sr., were both natives of Attleborough, Mass., the former having been born July 20, 1787. Our subject's great-grandfather, the Rev. Peter Thatcher, was a minister in the Congregational Church, and for many years resided about twenty miles from Boston.

John Thatcher, the father of our subject, received a good education in the common schools of Attleborough, and upon attaining manhood selected for his life vocation the calling of a farmer, at which he was engaged until his death, November 18, 1860. His entire life was spent in the village of his birth. There he married Miss Sallie Moore, and to them six children were born, Edwin being the next to the youngest. Four are still living, as follows: Azir, who resides in Harford, Pa., at the age of seventy-seven years (1893); Eldred,

a resident of Downer's Grove, Ill., who is now seventy-five years old; Editha, the wife of Lucien B. Taft, of Harford Pa., and now seventy-three years of age; and our subject, who is sixty-eight.

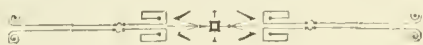
In Harford, Pa., Edwin Thatcher received his education, which was sufficient to enable him, at the age of nineteen, to begin teaching. He followed that profession in Pennsylvania until 1866, when he came to Michigan. Prior to his removal to this State, he enlisted as a member of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, in which he served until the close of the war, and upon being mustered out of service returned to Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1866 he settled in Ravenna Township, Muskegon County, where he purchased a farm, and in connection with the conduct of agricultural pursuits also taught school until 1872.

Elected to the position of County Superintendent of Schools in 1872, Mr. Thatcher served with efficiency and to the satisfaction of the people. Upon the expiration of his term of office, he returned to the farm, where he has since resided. In the spring of 1871 he was elected to the office of Supervisor, and served three years, during which time (in 1872) he was elected County Superintendent. A few years after the close of his term of office, he was again elected Supervisor, in 1882, serving until 1887, at which time his son, Frank E., was elected to the same office, retaining the position for five years. Edwin Thatcher while Supervisor was elected Chairman for four years.

The marriage of Mr. Thatcher united him with Miss Catherine S., daughter of Tyler and Mary (Graham) Carpenter, their wedding being celebrated September 27, 1849. Six children have been born of this union: Fred A., who married Therza Rockwell, and lives in Ottawa County; Annabelle, who married Walter S. Averill, and resides in Ottawa, this State; Amanda P., who is the wife of Grenville Rockwell, and lives in Ottawa County; Frank E., who married Sarah J. Bennett, and makes his home in Elk Rapids; Eldred F., who married Miss Lena Keas, and lives in Muskegon, Mich.; and Jennie K., the wife of James R. Rockwell, and a resident of Ottawa County. Frank E., as above stated, served for some time as one of the Supervisors of Muskegon County, and

was Chairman of the Board for one year. He has been a member of the Legislature, having overcome the usual majority of six hundred and sixty in his county.

A Democrat of life-long standing, Mr. Thatcher has labored unweariedly in the interests of his party, supporting its candidates and principles with unwavering fidelity. He is identified, socially, with Ravenna Lodge No. 337, G. A. R., in which he is influential and prominent. Before leaving Pennsylvania, he was elected Commissioner of his county, and served in that responsible position acceptably to his fellow-citizens, being the incumbent of the office for three years.



**O**SCAR M. SHERBURNE. Among the old soldiers and successful farmers of Blendon Township, Ottawa County, Mich., stands the name of Oscar M. Sherburne, an honest, upright man, courteous in his intercourse with his fellow-men and possessed of more than average intelligence. Like so many of the representative citizens of the county, he claims New York as his native State, his birth occurring in Chenango County March 28, 1834. He was one of three children born to the union of S. W. and Amanda (Root) Sherburne, also natives of the Empire State. The parents left their native State at an early date and turned their faces towards the setting sun, locating in Cleveland, Ohio, where they remained for eight years. From there they removed to DeKalb County, Ill., but five or six years later came to Ottawa County, Mich. This was in 1851, and they settled in Blendon Township, where the father was engaged in contracting and building. He erected the first mill for the Ohio Lumber Company and many of the first frame residences in Blendon, as well as in adjoining townships. He was engaged in contracting and building until his death, which occurred in 1881, at the age of seventy-six.

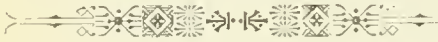
S. W. Sherburne was twice married, his first wife

dying in 1830. His second marriage was with Miss Elizabeth Fairchild, who bore him four children, all of whom lived to mature years. Harriet married Henry Woodruff. Charles died in the year 1866, at the age of twenty-seven. He was in the United States Navy during the war, on the gunboat "A. C. Collier," Mississippi flotilla. Sarah, deceased, was the wife of H. H. Hodge; and Ellen, deceased, was the wife of Jacob Leslie. The three children born to the first union were: Oscar M.; Malvina, deceased; and Amanda, also deceased, who was the wife of William Gilliland, and died in the year 1891, at the age of fifty-five. The father of these children is still living, and, although eighty-eight years of age, is enjoying comparatively good health. He has a comfortable and pleasant home in Holland, Mich.

Oscar Sherburne received a common-school education, and when twelve years of age went to Illinois, where he worked on the farm by the month, his first wages being \$5 or \$6 per month. Leaving the Sucker State, he traveled over various States, and was engaged in lumbering for some time in Wisconsin. About 1856 he came to Michigan, and up to the commencement of the Rebellion worked at the carpenter's trade. In 1861 he joined Company 1, Third Michigan Infantry, under Capt. George Weatherwax and Col. McConnell, and was attached to the First Division, Third Army Corps, commanded by Gen. Sickles. He participated in twenty-eight regular battles, and was in all the battles fought by the Army of the Potomac from the first battle of Bull Run to the battle of the Wilderness, except Antietam. He was three times wounded, first at the second battle of Bull Run, and was once wounded in the right hand and left foot. After recovering from the wounds he returned to the service and commanded the pioneer corps until the expiration of his term of enlistment, three years and two months, when he was discharged, on the 20th of June, 1864.

Returning to Michigan, our subject worked at carpentering in Grand Rapids for two years, after which he returned to this township, and has since made his home here. He was married the first time in 1859 to Miss Lottie Waite, of Indiana, daughter of Justus and Mrs. (Flint) Waite. Five

children have blessed this union: Walter, deceased; Edwin, who resides in Mason County, Mich.; Mer-ton D., in Duluth, Minn.; Charles F., at Grand Rapids; and Willie, the youngest, deceased. Charles F. is a mute and was educated at Flint Mute College, and is now working at the cabinet-maker's trade, having been one of the finest workmen in the city. Mrs. Sherburne died in 1873, and in 1875 Mr. Sherburne married Mrs. Sarah E. Meade, *nee* Foster. Mr. Sherburne has filled all the township offices, having been Township Clerk for eight years, Highway Commissioner for a number of years, and Supervisor for eight or nine years. He is a member of Custer Post No. 5, G. A. R., at Grand Rapids.



**H**ORACE L. DELANO is one of Muskegon's prominent and popular attorneys-at-law. He has engaged in practice at this place since 1877, and has established a reputation of which many an older practitioner might well be proud. Mr. Delano is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Andover, Ashtabula County, in the year 1853. His father, Horace Giddings Delano, was born in Pennsylvania, and after arriving at years of maturity wedded Miss Julia Kyle, daughter of Leonard Kyle, of Andover, Ohio. When he was but three years old his mother died. In 1862 his father enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Fifth Ohio Regiment, and was mustered out at the close of the Rebellion, in June, 1865.

The subject of this sketch received good educational privileges, and after attending the common schools took a course in the High School. In looking about him for a profession or occupation which he wished to make his life work, he decided to engage in the practice of law, and began his legal studies under the direction of Judge Fred J. Russell, of Hart, Mich. He was admitted to the Bar in May, 1876, and at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession in Whitehall, Mich., where he remained for about a year.

As before stated, Mr. Delano entered upon his practice in Muskegon in 1877. The year after his arrival he was made Circuit Court Commissioner, and held that office for four years, or until 1882. He has served as Prosecuting Attorney, having twice been appointed to fill a vacancy in that office, and in 1883 was elected to that position for a term of two years. He proved capable and efficient and discharged his public duties with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. Other business interests have also occupied the attention of Mr. Delano, who is now Secretary of the Muskegon Chemical Fire Engine Company. He is largely interested in manufacturing concerns, and thus has materially and substantially aided in the growth and prosperity of the city. He is also a Director of the Whitehall State Savings Bank.

An important event in the life of Mr. Delano occurred in 1880, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Cora Heald, daughter of Joseph Heald, of Montague, Mich. They reside at their pleasant home at No. 219 West Webster Avenue, where they keep open house, and their friends, who are many, are always sure of receiving a hearty welcome. In social circles where worth and intelligence are received as the passports into good society they hold an enviable position. In politics, Mr. Delano is a supporter of the Republican party. He has always been instrumental in promoting the upbuilding of the city, and is ever found in the front ranks of any enterprise calculated to advance the general welfare. He is now enjoying a fine law practice, a just tribute to his merit.



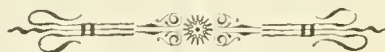
**J**OSEPH EDWARD, a prosperous horticulturist, devoting his attention principally to small fruits, strawberries and currants, is located in Ottawa County, near Agnew, and is a long-time resident of his present locality. He has held with efficiency various local positions of trust, and for fifteen years has been a valued School Director and is now likewise Clerk of the

home township. William Edward, the paternal grandfather of our subject, emigrated to Canada in the year 1847, accompanied by his two sons, but the father of Joseph Edward remained in his native country, Scotland, and was the trusty land steward of the Earl of Fife. Our subject, born in the year 1847, grew up to adult age in Aberdeen County, near Banff, and received his educational instruction in the public schools of his birthplace. Remaining in Scotland some time subsequent to arriving at his majority, he finally decided to follow the example of his paternal grandfather and seek a new home in America. In the year 1871 he finally bade adieu to the scenes of youth and, animated with the spirit of ambitious hope and courage, sailed for the land of promise beyond the sea.

As was natural, our subject first located in Canada, and while in the Dominion spent most of his time in Toronto and Montreal. During his residence in the city of Toronto he served on the police force, and was far from being a novice at the business, having been previously connected for five years with the Scotch police. In 1873 our subject emigrated to the States, and immediately located in Michigan, settling in Ottawa County, since then his permanent home. Three years later, in 1876, were united in marriage Joseph Edward and Miss Ellen Booher, a native of Indiana. Our subject and his worthy wife at once settled upon a farm, located seven miles south of Grand Haven, to which city Mrs. Edward had removed from her birthplace the same year. The six children who have blessed the union are, in the order of their birth: Mary, ten years of age; Maude, eight years old; Joe, a little lad of six; Millie, aged four; Jane, a little lassie of two; and Gordon, the baby of the flock.

Mr. Edward owns one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, eighty acres of the homestead having been brought up from its wild state into most profitable cultivation. The entire farm when first purchased by our subject was covered with heavy timber, and hard work and tireless industry have been required to clear, cultivate and improve the fertile soil. The chief products of the Edward farm are hay, peaches and a large

variety of choice berries, strawberries and currants, as before mentioned. Politically, Mr. Edward is a staunch Democrat, and has occupied, to the great satisfaction of the community, every office of the township with the exception of Supervisor and Treasurer. He was Justice of the Peace for twelve years, and his legal decisions, in accord with law and evidence, were seldom carried to the upper courts. As an active member of the Good Templars, Mr. Edward gives earnest effort in behalf of the fallen, and firmly believes that temperance is the sure lever with which to elevate the masses. While not connected by membership with any church organization, our subject is a ready aid in good work and benevolent enterprise, and is widely known as a man of liberal spirit and earnest purpose.



**I**C. HORTON, who has with efficient ability occupied various official positions of trust in his present locality, is known as a prosperous general agriculturist and extensive bee-keeper, of Cedar Creek Township, Muskegon County, Mich., and owns the largest apiary in his home county. Mr. Horton, born October 10, 1831, in the Empire State, was the son of Henry and Julia (Moore) Horton, both natives of New York. The family of Hortons, originally of German nativity and the descendants of a long line of industrious ancestry, crossed the broad Atlantic in a very early day in the history of America, and in this country prospered and made their upward way to positions of usefulness and honor. The branch of the Hortons to which our subject belongs settled in Dutchess County, N. Y., the members of the family being numbered among the substantial citizens of the Empire State. The paternal and maternal grandfathers of I. C. Horton were both men of gallant courage and actively participated in the War for Independence, and later, again shouldering their muskets, took part in

the War of 1812, and fought with heroic bravery under Gen. Jackson in the famous battle of New Orleans.

The parents of our subject, upright and intelligent, carefully trained the eight children who blessed their home. Strong, sturdy and self-reliant, the sons and daughters attained to adult age and, beginning life, soon made homes for themselves and their descendants. They are all now deceased with the exception of I. C. and his brother Alonzo, who also resides upon the old homestead. I. C. Horton was mainly reared upon a farm. In boyhood he enjoyed limited advantages for an education, which he well improved, and until the year 1869 spent the greater portion of his time in the constant daily round of agricultural cares, and is beyond doubt a genuinely practical farmer, at home in every detail of the cultivation of the soil, as well as thoroughly understanding the profitable handling of bees. Arriving in Michigan in 1869, our subject commenced carpentering and found ready occupation as a joiner and contractor, soon doing a large business, with which he also combined general farming and bee-keeping. In venturing into bee-culture, Mr. Horton at first met with disappointments, but these he overcame by persistent efforts, and with patience and larger experience has become an authority on the bee industry. Beginning upon a small scale in 1877, and experiencing failure until 1883, our subject now receives from this source of revenue \$700 or \$800 per year, and continues to increase the capacity of his hives. Mr. Horton's farm consists of eighty acres, twenty-five of which are under a high state of cultivation.

In his twenty-fourth year our subject was married to Miss Lucy E. Babcock, a native of New York State and a daughter of Rufus and Almira (Walker) Babcock. The pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Horton was brightened by the presence of one daughter, now deceased. Our subject and his excellent wife adopted and reared a niece, Emma E. Huishopa, Mrs. Abner Servrey, residing in North Muskegon. Mrs. Horton, a devoted Christian woman, is a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church at Twin Lake. Mr. Horton is likewise a

professing Christian. Our subject, politically a Republican, ably served one term as Justice of the Peace of Cedar Creek Township, and was also elected Town Clerk, but did not accept the office. He gave great satisfaction to the entire community of the neighborhood and vicinity, where he has a host of friends tried and true.



FREDERICK WARBER, one of the representative citizens and a leading business man of Grand Haven, is engaged in the growing of celery, a product for which Michigan has gained an enviable reputation. Our subject comes from a far country. He is of German birth, having first opened his eyes to the light of day in Prussia, Germany, on the 16th of February, 1847. His father, John Warber, was also born in the same locality. In his later days he crossed the Atlantic to America and settled in Connecticut.

Our subject spent his school days in the Fatherland, where he was reared to manhood under the parental roof. He attained his majority in Germany; and then determined to seek a home in a land of freedom, with the hope of bettering his financial condition. It was in 1868 that he bade adieu to the friends of his youth and took passage on a Westward-bound sailing-vessel. At length he reached New York, and on leaving the Eastern metropolis he made his way to Kansas. There he spent some years, and was engaged in driving a team across the plains to Colorado and New Mexico. In this way he got a start in life. The change in his location occurred in 1876. That year witnessed his arrival in Grand Haven, where he secured employment in the sawmill of Charles Boyden. He proved a faithful and trusted employe and held that position for seven years, when he severed his connection with Mr. Boyden in order to engage in business for himself.

In 1885 Mr. Warber chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Minnie Allbreith, of Grand Haven. By their union has been born



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*Lucius Lyman*

one child, a son, W. F., who is the light of the household. It was about 1883 that Mr. Warber began growing celery. He for the most part raises the "white plume" variety, which is a superior kind and finds a ready sale in the market. He not only raises but bleaches his celery, and his farm is one of the best of the kind in this locality. He makes extensive shipments and his only market is Chicago. This enterprise has proved to be a successful one to Mr. Warber, who is now doing a large and profitable business. It was a fortunate day for him when he came to America, for in this country he has met with success in his business dealings and has won a comfortable home and gained many warm friends. He is a man of sterling worth and strict integrity, and the excellencies of his character have gained him the high regard of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



**L**UCIUS LYMAN, an enterprising citizen and pioneer settler of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, Mich., during his thirty-six years' residence in his present locality has filled various official positions of trust. For two years from the spring of 1891 he rendered valuable service as a member of the Village Council, and in the spring of 1893 he was elected President of the village. Born in Windsor County, Vt., in 1821, our subject is a direct descendant of English ancestors, the Lymans early emigrating from the Queen's dominions to the United States, where various members of the family have been numbered among the honored and patriotic citizens of our great Republic.

In the Green Mountain State Mr Lyman passed his early days and received a good education in the schools of the home district. Attaining manhood, he learned the trade of a millwright, and shortly after reaching his majority engaged in business for himself. He erected numerous machine works, and about 1845 built the first print-

ing machinery used in Manchester, N.H. After a time he received employment in the Ames Manufacturing Company, of Cabbotsville, Mass., and remained with that firm for three years. In 1848 or 1849, he emigrated from the State of his birth to New York and made his home in Jefferson County. There and in the adjacent counties he constructed a great variety of milling machinery.

For many years Mr. Lyman pursued the even tenor of his way, until the breaking out of the Civil War caused him to forsake the occupation of his life and enlist in the service of the Union. Entering the Second New York Artillery in 1861, he marched to the front and was located at Arlington Heights, where he assisted in building Pts. Ward, Worth and Blenker. On account of disability he was discharged from the army in 1863, and returning to New York remained there until 1867, when he came to Spring Lake and commenced to work at his trade. Since the latter date he has been especially successful in this line of work and has beyond all doubt built more mills in the past score and a-half years than any other man in the State. Among the extensive enterprises in which he has assisted was the erection of a large plant for the Diamond Match Company in the Northern Peninsula, the building of which occupied his exclusive attention for nearly two years.

On the 13th of April, 1843, in Chelsea, Vt., Lucius Lyman and Miss Mary Burgess were united in marriage. Passing together more than a half-century of conjugal happiness, they have recently celebrated their golden wedding, one of the noted social events in the history of Spring Lake, the reunion of April, 1893, being a memorable occasion with all who participated in the festivities of the happy time. Nine children accompanied our subject and his estimable wife to their new home in the West. In 1870, five of the family died of that dread disease, scarlet fever. Three sons and two daughters were thus suddenly removed from the family circle, whose survivors were indeed greatly bereaved. The four children who are now living are: Mary, Mrs. Phillips, a resident of Steuben County, N. Y.; Charles A., a citizen of Grand Haven and a well-known captain on the Lakes; Eliza A., wife of John R. Ghent, a prosperous

druggist of Muskegon; and Malfort G., who went West early in life and cannot be exactly located.

Although past the boundary line of three-score years and ten, Mr. Lyman is hale and hearty, and still follows his trade of a millwright, being numbered among the active business men of his locality. Politically, he is a Republican and comes of old anti-slavery stock, well known in the Abolition days. He has occupied numerous local offices and has ever been a prominent leader in all matters pertaining to the growth of enterprise and mutual advancement. Fraternally, he is associated with the Grand Army of the Republic at Spring Lake and enjoys its pleasant social reunions, where in memory the old veterans again live over the days when they gave their earnest efforts in behalf of national existence. Respected by all who know him, Lucius Lyman has led a life of integrity and self-reliance, and has faithfully given to each duty, as friend, neighbor and citizen, his most conscientious attention and persistent efforts.



**T**HOMAS H. BIGNELL, a prominent citizen and representative agriculturist of Ottawa County, Mich., resides upon a magnificent farm of two hundred and ten acres, containing some of the finest land in Grand Haven Township. Financially prospered and regarded as a man of sterling integrity of character, Mr. Bignell has occupied important local positions of trust and firmly holds the confidence of all his fellow-townsmen. His father, John Bignell, born in 1794, came to this country in 1815, and was sent on Lake Ontario, engaged in the British service, during the War of 1812. Near the close of the war, in company with several comrades, John Bignell deserted the British ranks and leaving Lewiston, on the Niagara River, rowed across the lake in an open boat, and, remaining together, safely arrived in Monroe County, N. Y., where they separated. The father remained in that part of the Empire

State, and later married in Monroe County, in 1819, Miss Jane Spratt, a most estimable woman, a native of Ireland. Emigrating with her parents to America when only a little child, she received her education in New York and there attained to womanhood. The parents settled in Monroe County, and there the father made his residence until in 1838, with his family, he journeyed to the West and located in Michigan.

Permanently settling in Oakland County, John Bignell became one of the prosperous farmers of the Wolverine State and in 1870, esteemed by all who knew him, passed away, mourned as a public loss. Our subject was the eldest of a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, but three of whom are now living. The brothers and sisters were: Thomas H., George, Mary, Rebecca, Eliza, James, John, Jane, Candace and Judson. Those surviving are Thomas H., John and Mary, Mrs. Fish, who resides in Ottawa County, Mich.

Thomas H. was born in the year 1820, in Monroe County, N. Y., and in that locality passed the days of early youth, being eighteen years of age when he accompanied his father's family to Oakland County. He resided in that portion of the State for some seven years, and in 1845 was married in Ionia County, Mich., to Miss Ann Jaenette Dexter, a lady of superior ability and fine character. She survived her marriage but four years and died without issue. Lamented by many friends she entered into rest in Ionia County, in the year 1849. Not long after the demise of this wife our subject entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was following this vocation in Shiawassee County, when he met the lady destined to become his second wife, Miss Mary Dowell.

Mrs. Bignell is a native of England and emigrated with her parents to this country at the age of four or five years, the first home of Mr. and Mrs. Dowell in the Wolverine State being near Ypsilanti. Shortly after his second marriage our subject engaged in teaching school in Portland, Ionia County, Mich., but after teaching for a twelvemonth again resumed the duties of the ministry, and continued to preach the Word for fifteen years, mostly in southwestern Michigan.

About 1865, Mr. Bignell engaged in the foundry business in Ionia, and continued to conduct the foundry six years, then profitably selling out and later removing to Ottawa County, where he at once purchased and located upon his valuable farm. A successful agriculturist, he has likewise devoted a portion of his time to the service of the public and has with efficiency discharged the duties of Highway Commissioner, School Inspector and Justice of the Peace. Politically a Republican from the formation of the party, our subject cast his first vote for Fremont, and clings with earnestness to the principles of the "Party of Reform." The four children who have blessed the second marriage of Mr. Bignell are Ann Jaenette; James L., John W. and Jamies. Ann Jaenette married the Rev. G. L. Pearson, and resides in Phoenix, Ariz. John W. lives at home; Jamies is a citizen of Muskegon, and married the eldest daughter of Charles Clark. The second born, James L., is deceased. Our subject, his worthy wife, daughter and sons are all occupying positions of useful influence, and socially command the high regard of a host of friends. Mr. Bignell—a man of acknowledged business ability—is to-day ranked among the leading men and substantial citizens of Ottawa County.



**J**OHN TEN HAVE. In John Ten Have are combined all the qualities which go to make a prosperous, law-abiding and honorable citizen, and the success that has attended his efforts is but the just reward of honest merit worthily bestowed. He is a native of the Province of Drenthe, Holland, having been born in 1830, his parents being Henry R. and Wilhelmine (Gerding) Ten Have, and his grandparents Ralph and Wemmigje Ten Have. Ralph Ten Have was a carpenter by trade, born in the north of Holland, but of French extraction. He became a well-known builder, and many of the public buildings of the city of Amsterdam still stand as

monuments to his skill. He accumulated considerable wealth and reared a family of four children in comfort: John, Henry R., Nicholas and Alice, all of whom are now dead. He and his wife were members of the Reformed Church and were highly honored in the locality in which they lived.

Henry R. Ten Have was born in 1780, and in his youth received a good education in one of the best colleges of his country. He was a very fine penman, and one of his old copybooks, written with a quill pen, is now in possession of his son John. He was a Second Lieutenant in the army of Holland and later was a Home Guard. He was married at about the age of thirty years to a daughter of Henry and Mary Gerding, who was also finely educated and a fluent speaker of French. After his marriage Mr. Ten Have conducted a gin distillery, at which he became wealthy, and he owned one hundred and twenty acres of land, which was considered a large amount to be in the possession of one man in that country. During the latter part of his life he gave his attention to tilling this land, and died at the age of sixty-four years, leaving a widow and six children, the latter being as follows: Ralph, a resident of Holland Township; Henry, deceased; Wilhelmina, deceased; Hiram, a resident of Holland Township; John, deceased; and John. The death of Henry R. Ten Have occurred in 1843, and about 1847 his widow with four of her children emigrated to the United States, after selling all her possessions in the Old Country. After reaching Ottawa County, Mich., they had only about \$500 in money left, and they soon took up their residence three miles north of Holland, in an old block-house with two other families, but remained there only three months, going thence to New Groningen, where Mrs. Ten Have and her daughter died shortly after.

After the death of the mother the family became scattered, and John, the subject of this sketch, secured employment in a sawmill, but later worked in Kalamazoo County a few months on a farm. He then learned the shoemaker's trade in Alamo, which he has followed more or less ever since. In 1852 he came to Holland Township and bought forty acres of his present farm, and by industry

has increased his landed possessions to eighty acres. When he made his first purchase the land was in a wild state and there were no roads, but his good judgment told him that the land would one day be very valuable, so he continued to labor energetically and to such purpose that he now has one of the best-tilled farms of the section, which, though small, compared with some others, yet yields abundant harvests.

At the age of twenty-five, Mr. Ten Have was married to Miss Tryntje, a daughter of Gerrit and Elizabeth (Postma) Van Dyk, and their union has resulted in the birth of nine children: Henry; Elizabeth; Gerrit; William, deceased; Ralph; Wilhelmina; Catherine; Aaron, deceased; and Mary. In the year 1892, Mr. Ten Have lost his barn by fire and with it \$300 worth of lumber which he had purchased for the erection of a new house, and, although this loss was a heavy one, he bore it philosophically and has continued to "pursue the even tenor of his way" unfalteringly. He and his wife are members of the Reformed Church, and politically, he is a Republican. He has ably filled the office of Justice of the Peace and School Director, and in his church has held office for over thirty years, being at the present time an Elder.



**B** J. DEVRIES, D. D. S. There is no profession which meets the popular needs more than that of the dentist. He confers a boon on suffering humanity, and supplies that which is either deficient or destroyed in nature to complete the appearance and enhance the comfort of his clients. Therefore, no public servant deserves more grateful recognition at our hands than the dentist. Among the most successful practitioners of that art in the city of Holland, Mich., is Dr. B. J. De Vries, who is a responsible dentist, with an established reputation for ability and skill.

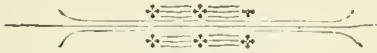
Dr. De Vries is a native of Holland Township, this county, and as he has spent the principal part

of his life here, the people have had every opportunity to judge of his character and qualifications. His birth occurred November 20, 1858, and he is the son of John DeVries, and the grandson of Berend De Vries, both natives of Holland. The grandfather was educated in his native country, was married there, and in 1847, on account of religious persecution, left the land of his birth and crossed the ocean to the United States, being among the first settlers of Holland Township, Ottawa County. There he entered land from the Government, but as it was a forest he began clearing and improving, and soon had eighty acres of well-cultivated land. On this he resided until he reached advanced years, and then went to live with his son and near his grandson, Henry DeVries. He and his worthy companion are now eighty-seven years of age, but enjoy comparatively good health. Both have been very active church members and hold membership in the Reformed Church, in which they are highly esteemed.

John De Vries, father of our subject and son of the honored old couple mentioned above, was but eleven years of age when he came with his parents to the wilds of Michigan. He assisted his father in clearing the home place, and amid rude surroundings grew to sturdy manhood. He was married to Everdina Rysdorp, a native of the Netherlands and daughter of Henry Rysdorp who came to the United States with many others in 1847. John De Vries remained on the old home place, engaged in farming, until about thirty-four years of age. Later he followed lumbering in Ottawa and Antrim Counties, and has continued this business ever since. He and his wife are now residing in Grand Rapids. They became the parents of five children: Minnie, Mrs. Moerdyk; Henry and Albert DeVries; Katie, Mrs. Keppel, and our subject. In politics, the father is a strong Republican, and in religion a member of the Reformed Church, in which he was a Deacon in Zeeland for many years.

The original of this notice was reared on his father's farm in Holland Township, and graduated from Hope College with the degree of A. B. in 1880. He took the full course in college, and afterwards took a course of dental surgery in the

Michigan State University, graduating in 1882. Immediately afterwards he came to Holland and entered upon a successful career as a dentist. This he has followed ever since, and has met with flattering success. In the year 1884 he was married to Miss Grace L. Boer, daughter of John Boer, who was also born in Holland. Three children have blessed this union: John Theodore, Bernard George and Evaline Grace. Mr. De Vries' office is located in the First State Bank Building and he has pleasant and attractive rooms. In politics he is a Republican and, like his immediate progenitors, is a member of the Reformed Church and a Deacon in the same, having held that position for six years. He devotes his entire time to his practice and is one of the very best dentists of the city.



**M**ONTGOMERY HAYWARD, a farmer residing in Casenovia Township, and the owner of valuable landed possessions in Muskegon County, was born in Canandaigua, N. Y., March 3, 1835, and is a son of Ormand and Sarah (Gaskill) Hayward. He traces his ancestry to Scotland, whence his paternal grandfather, Stephen Hayward, emigrated to America during Colonial days and made settlement in Massachusetts, where he died. When the War of the Revolution threatened the entire destruction of liberty, he enlisted in the service of the Colonies, and was one of the brave soldiers to whom we owe the freedom of our beloved country.

The father of our subject was born in Massachusetts, and in his youth removed to Vermont, where he married. Later he went to New York and settled in Canandaigua, where he bought a farm. In 1836 he sold his property there, and, removing to Niagara County, the same State, located six miles east of Lockport, where he purchased and improved ninety acres of land. In his old age he came to Michigan and made his home with his children until his death in 1883, at the age of

eighty-four. His wife died in Kendallville, Ind., in 1889, and was buried in Michigan. They had been the parents of eight children, as follows: Durinda, who resides in Indiana; Frank; Edwin, of whom mention is elsewhere made; Sarah, who is married and lives in California; Sabra, Mrs. Root, of New York; John, who served during the late war as a member of the Indiana Cavalry and now resides in Grand Rapids; Stephen, who died at the age of sixteen years; and Montgomery, of this sketch. The mother of this family was born in Vermont, whither her father had emigrated from England. He was a Quaker in religion, but she was a member of the Christian Church.

On account of the poverty of his parents, our subject was obliged to become self-sustaining at an early age. In 1856 he came to Kent County, Mich., where for a time he engaged in lumbering on the Grand River and its tributaries. In the fall of 1871 he purchased a half-interest in a tract consisting of about eight hundred acres where he now resides. At the same time he erected a saw-mill and manufactured lumber until 1884, when he disposed of the mill and has given his attention exclusively to farming since that time. He owns one hundred and eighty acres upon his present homestead, and also owns three other farms, two of which contain one hundred and sixty acres each, and one consisting of eighty acres. He is also the owner of several hundred acres of timberland in various places.

In September, 1864, Mr. Hayward was united in marriage with Miss Martha Kenney, who was born in Monroe County, N. Y. Her parents, James and Martha (Clark) Kenney, were natives of Ireland, and settled in Michigan in 1851, where the father followed the trade of a blacksmith until his death at the old homestead near Rockford, Kent County. During the late war he enlisted in the Union army and served with valor until the expiration of his term of enlistment. Politically, he was a Republican. He and his wife were the parents of four sons and four daughters. Unto our subject and his accomplished wife two children have been born: Fred C. and Frank.

Long neighborhood association through the vicissitudes of lapsing years is perhaps the best

test by which to judge character. Those who have been Mr. Hayward's neighbors for many years have found him a considerate, kind and helpful friend, careful of their needs in health or sickness, and jealous of their good names. Companionship with such a man is a privilege not often enjoyed. While Mr. Hayward is a Democrat politically, he is not a politician, nor does he show any partisanship in his preferences. He is a citizen of whom any community may well be proud.



**F**RANK J. FOX. The career of Mr. Fox presents an example of industry, perseverance and good management, rewarded by substantial results, well worthy the imitation of all. He was born in Portland, Mich., a son of Samuel and Matilda (Gardner) Fox, the birth of the latter occurring August 9, 1820, near the village of Wichureh, Shropshire, England. She came with her father to America in 1830, and on the 28th of October landed at New York City. The following May they removed to a farm in Ontario County, N. Y., soon after to Yates County, and on April 1, 1835, Mrs. Fox started for Michigan in company with the family of Almeran Newman, arriving at Portland May 23, 1835. In November, 1850, she moved to Grand Haven, and was there married to G. T. Woodbury, and there she continued to make her home until April 14, 1862, when she settled with her husband in Ottawa County, this State, and there continued to reside until her death. She was first married to Samuel J. Fox, August 16, 1838, at Portland, and by him became the mother of two sons: Charles D., and Frank J.; and by her second husband also had two sons: Jesse G. T. and Warren H. Mrs. Woodbury was a lady of intelligence and noble character and was a devout Christian, being a member of the Congregational Church at the time of her death, although formerly a Methodist.

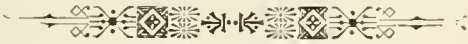
Frank J. Fox was born May 3, 1849, and until thirteen years of age attended the schools of Grand

Haven. He then came to the farm with his mother and stepfather, and here attended the district schools. He commenced life for himself at the age of twenty-one, but remained with his mother until her death. He then turned his attention to lumbering and the sawmill business, and in the years 1881-82 put up a mill of his own on section 31, where it still stands in the most heavily timbered section of the county. For the first few years he cut from one to one and a-half million feet of lumber annually, his marketing being done by means of Grand River at Bass River Landing, and also by rail. Mr. Fox is one of the oldest settlers of the county, and has been prominent in its affairs. He has filled many township offices, from School Director, which he held eleven years, to Supervisor, and has also ably filled the position of Justice of the Peace. In 1880 he was elected Township Supervisor by a majority of one hundred and eighty over his opponent, and again in 1891. In 1890 he was elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, but resigned this office April 27, 1891. In the spring of 1893 he was again elected to the position almost unanimously.

April 25, 1891, he was married to Miss Jenett Alexander, a native of Canada, and a daughter of William and Amanda (Miller) Alexander, who were born in Scotland and Canada, respectively. Mr. Alexander was a sailor in his younger days, but in early life came to America, and is now a resident of Georgetown Township. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have eight children living: Mary, wife of Alonzo Wilcox; Hugh, of Grand Rapids; Jenett; Robert; James; Grace, wife of Delbert Christler; Samuel; and Jean, now Mrs. Chester Horton, of Jamestown, Mich. Mrs. Fox is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which she is an active worker, and she belongs to several missionary societies. Mr. Fox has always been a prominent Republican, and is one of the most thrifty and successful farmers in the county. He purchased his first farm in 1880, containing one hundred and sixty-three acres, partially improved, and now has eighty acres under a high state of cultivation, magnificently improved with splendid barns, outbuildings and residence. In 1885 or 1886 he purchased seventy-one acres adjoining, of which sixty were



improved, and on this place was a large and thrifty orchard of six acres, principally of apple trees. Mr. Fox is engaged in general farming and makes a specialty of Percheron horses, having a nice herd of this breed. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Allendale, a stockholder in the County Fair Association, and also in the gravel road from Grand Rapids to Grand Haven. In all the enterprises attempted by him he has been successful, and this has been in a great measure due to honest hard work and close attention to his business interests.



**A**LONZO L. DOW, an energetic, capable and successful agriculturist of Muskegon County, residing in Moorland Township, first opened his eyes to the light in Canada, his birth having occurred in St. Mary's County, July 7, 1856. He is a son of Lorenzo and Katharine (Piester) Dow, natives of New York, and on his father's side he is a distant relative of the famous evangelist, Lorenzo Dow. During the early part of his life, the father of our subject was a cabinet-maker by occupation and followed that trade with considerable success. In 1857, accompanied by his family, he removed to Michigan and settled in Grand Rapids.

After a brief stay in that city, Mr. Dow, Sr., removed to Newaygo County, where he remained for three years. In 1860 he settled in Moorland Township, Muskegon County, and as the country at that time was undeveloped, he set to work immediately to clear the land of heavy timber. In a few years he was in possession of a fine farm, the reward of his labor in reclaiming the wilderness. In 1882 he sold his property to William Durkes and removed to Muskegon, near Black Lake, where he remained until his death, October 27, 1888. He was a highly respected citizen and successful farmer, and was active in politics and all matters pertaining to public interest. A brave, courageous pioneer, he helped to build and make

possible Muskegon County's present prosperity. Additional facts concerning his life may be gleaned from the sketch of P. P. Misner, of Muskegon, presented elsewhere in this volume.

Of eight children, our subject was among the eldest. At the age of twenty-three he commenced life for himself on the farm he now occupies. By skillful labor in drainage and cultivation, he has developed a farm rich in soil and production and embellished with a first-class set of rural buildings, adapted to their various purposes. While success has usually crowned his efforts, he has also met with his share of reverses. A few years ago, he, among others in this vicinity, met with a heavy loss caused by depression in the onion market. With that exception he has enjoyed continuous prosperity in his farming and gardening operations.

The marriage of Mr. Dow took place on the 17th of June, 1878, and united him with Miss Ida, daughter of Wesley and Ann (Johnson) Fuller. There have been born to them three children: Sarah, May and Fred Wesley, who are now receiving the best advantages afforded by the schools of Moorland Township. Possessing a genial, jovial disposition, bubbling over with life and merriment, and blessed by domestic felicity, Mr. Dow enjoys life to its fullest capacity. In politics he is a Republican, ever true to the principles of that party. Socially, he is identified with the order of the Maccabees, and takes a warm interest in that organization. He is a popular and enterprising citizen, and as such is highly esteemed throughout the community.



**J**OHAN B. WOODWARD, M. D., a prosperous and skillful physician of Muskegon, Mich., is a native of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and was born January 7, 1846. His father, John B. Woodward, was born in Yorkshire, England, and emigrated to Canada in 1812. He engaged in the War of 1812, serving in the British army as a surgeon, and was a man of fine edu-

education and possessed of much ability. The paternal grandfather was John K. Woodward, whose mother was a Kilbourne. The mother of our subject was Margaret (Bunton) Woodward, a native of Ireland, and daughter of Harry Bunton, also born in the Emerald Isle, but who, crossing the ocean, settled in Canada in the year 1812. Dr. Woodward enjoyed exceptional advantages for an education, receiving preparatory instruction in the excellent schools of Montreal, Canada, and later entering the college at Toronto, Canada. While only a youth, he journeyed to Michigan, and at seventeen years of age, in 1863, enlisted in Company D, Tenth Michigan Cavalry, commanded by Col. Standish, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland.

Our subject courageously participated in many of the prominent engagements of the long campaign, and was present upon the battlefields of Winchester and the Wilderness, and was wounded at City Point by the explosion of the magazine at that place. In 1864, taken prisoner at Westfield, Va., he was imprisoned for six months in Libby, and for six weeks was obliged to subsist exclusively upon raw pumpkins. June 13, 1865, he was exchanged, and as soon as he gained strength enlisted again in an expedition sent out to fight the hostile Indians, and served in the West until June, 1866. Then returning to Toronto, Canada, Dr. Woodward re-entered college, and was graduated from the classical course in 1867, and, continuing his studies in 1868 took his diploma from the medical department. He shortly after accepted the position of Principal of the Public Schools of Grand Rapids and devoted himself to the duties of that profession for two years. He next went to Chicago, in which city he lectured on anatomy in the Dodge College, and occupied that professorship until 1873, when he returned to Grand Rapids, where he conducted a general practice in medicine for three years.

In 1876 our subject settled in Newaygo, Newaygo County, Mich., and there continued actively engaged in a round of professional duty until 1884. At this latter date Dr. Woodward made his home in Muskegon, but in 1885 departed for a long tour through Europe. He was abroad three

years, and during this time visited the various countries of Europe, and Egypt, Russia, India and Turkey, remaining in Mt. Armenia six weeks. Returning to Muskegon in 1888, Dr. Woodward resumed general practice, and, combining skillful surgery, has been especially successful in relieving suffering and effecting cures.

July 2, 1869, Dr. Woodward and Miss Cynthia Gould, of Grand Rapids, daughter of Nelson Gould, a native of New York, were married. Dr. and Mrs. Woodward were the parents of one son and one daughter, Frederick H. and Lottie M. The estimable wife of our subject passed away, deeply mourned, in Newaygo in 1884. The pleasant home of the Doctor is desirably located at No. 36 Western Avenue, Muskegon. Our subject is fraternally associated with the Grand Rapids Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and both within and without this order has many warm friends, by whom he is highly regarded for his qualities as a citizen and physician.



**B** J. POEST. It is doubtless owing entirely to the industrious and persevering manner with which Mr. Poest has adhered to the pursuits of agriculture, that he has risen to such a substantial position in farm affairs in Ottawa County. Since 1848 he has been a resident of the State of Michigan, and as a natural result he is much interested in the progress and development of his section, and has done his full share in making it the magnificent farming region that it now is. He is a product of the southwestern part of Holland, where he was born on the 4th of July, 1821, his parents being Dirk and Gertie (Wilden) Poest, also natives of the same place. Dirk Poest received an excellent education in his youth, and for forty years followed the occupation of a school teacher in one village, at the same time conducting a small but fertile farm which he owned. In time a family of four children gath-

ered about his hearthstone, as follows: John, a resident of Zeeland; B. J., the subject of this sketch; Minnie, deceased; and Jennie, a resident of Ottawa County, Mich.

B. J. Poest was twenty-four years of age at the time of his father's death, and under the able instruction of the latter his initiatory scholastic training was received, and he was fitted for the calling of a teacher, which he followed for some time during the winter months in his native land. At other times he was employed at the carpenter's trade there, but the remuneration for his services was not sufficient to satisfy one of his ambitious disposition, and he made up his mind to come to the United States, the Mecca of the poor man. He reached this country in June, 1848. His mother, leaving the Old Country at the same time with her other children, but on a different boat, died while on the voyage, and was buried at sea. Soon after his arrival in this country, Mr. Poest came to Michigan, and after spending a short time in Grand Rapids he obtained an Indian canoe and paddled his way to Holland. After his arrival here he worked at the carpenter's trade for a short time, and after spending one year in Zeeland he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of wild land and began to convert it into a farm. This land he sold after a time, and purchased the property on which he is now residing, which consists of four hundred and twenty acres, and besides this he has one hundred and sixty acres on another tract.

Although Mr. Poest came to this section when it was sparsely settled and under little cultivation, and was compelled to labor hard and do without many of the luxuries which seem so indispensable at the present time, he and his family were contented and happy, and prospered in spite of adverse circumstances. In his struggles to obtain a goodly heritage for his children, he was ably assisted by his industrious and economical wife, whom he married in 1849, and whose maiden name was Gertie Kamps, daughter of Berren and Henereka (Askes) Kamps. She was born in the Netherlands, and was reared there on her father's farm. She came to this country with her parents, and was united in marriage to Mr. Poest, by

whom she has a family of nine children: Geziena, wife of Leander Barmen; Henereka, wife of John Veneklasen; Dirk, Berren, Henry, John, Jacob, Hannah and William.

Mr. and Mrs. Poest have long been members of the Reformed Church of Zeeland, and for forty years Mr. Poest has been an Elder in the church, and for two years prior to that time was a Deacon. He is a Democrat, politically, has held a number of township offices, and has been active in all good works, a valuable acquisition to any community.



**R**OBERT G. ROBSON, the energetic and prosperous dealer in pictures and picture frames, has long been numbered with the leading business men of Muskegon, Mich., and for the past sixteen years has been intimately associated with the development and upward growth of the vital interests of the Wolverine State. Mr. Robson, by nativity an Englishman, was born in the city of London in the year 1824. His parents, George and Rebecca Robson, were also born in England. Mr. Robson received his preparatory education in the excellent public schools of England, and later completed his studies in a London boarding-school. At a comparatively early age he began to prepare for a self-supporting future, leaving school and entering upon a long apprenticeship of seven years to his father, who owned a large wagon-shop. Having at the expiration of this length of time gained an extended knowledge of every detail of the business, our subject determined to try his fortunes in America.

Embarking from London, Mr. Robson safely crossed the broad Atlantic, and after a favorable voyage landed in 1848 in the metropolis of New York, and there, finding ready employment, remained for several years. Finally following the tide of emigration to the Westward, our subject journeyed to Illinois, and for seventeen years lived in Bloomington. Being a skilled mechanic, he never experienced any difficulty in obtaining remunera-

tive employment, and in making changes of residence was animated only by the desire to better himself. In 1877, Mr. Robson came to Michigan and, pleased with the country and people, settled in Muskegon, where at first he worked at his trade and later engaged in his present business, which he has since successfully conducted up to the present time, his affable courtesy and business rectitude making him many friends and customers.

In 1848, in the mother country, were united in marriage Robert G. Robson and Miss Adalaide Langabeer, of London, England, and six children, one son and five daughters, have blessed their union. Our subject is politically a Republican, and without having ever been in any sense of the word a politician, has always taken a deep interest in both the local and national management of public affairs. To his adopted country loyal and true, Robert G. Robson is ever ready to do his duty as a liberal-spirited and progressive citizen.



**B**YRON B. GODFREY, M. D., a prominent physician and successful surgeon of Hudsonville, is one of the public-spirited and progressive citizens to whose influence the present prosperity of the village is largely due. The family of which he is an honored representative originated in Wales, whence in an early day some of its members removed to America and became identified with the growth of this country. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Thomas Godfrey, was a trader between the East Indies and New York for many years, and later became a contractor on the Erie Canal.

The father of our subject, Almon Thomas Godfrey, was a native of Van Rensselaer County, N. Y., born August 5, 1806. He married Miss Lovina Beardsley, a native of Hannibal, Oswego County, N. Y., born September 10, 1812, and the daughter of James Beardsley. After their marriage, which was solemnized in New York, the parents of our

subject resided in that State for a number of years, and thence removed to Wisconsin in 1853, settling in Port Washington. In 1868 they came to Michigan, and located in Tallmage Township, Ottawa County, where they resided for eight years. Subsequently they made their home with our subject until their demise, the father passing away on the 7th of April, 1884, and the mother January 10, 1892.

In the parental family there were eight children, four of whom are now living, as follow: Mrs. C. E. Smead, of Grand Rapids; Morrill, a resident of Lansing, Iowa; Mrs. L. G. Allen, of Chicago; and our subject. The parents were honorable, upright and religious, the father being identified with the Christian Church, and the mother a member of the Baptist Church. Politically, he was a Whig, and after the organization of the Republican party supported its principles. The youngest of the surviving children is the subject of this notice, who was born in Hannibal, Oswego County, N. Y., March 1, 1848. His primary education was received in the common schools of Port Washington, Wis., and later he conducted his studies at Fond du Lac.

After completing his studies, our subject taught school for eight years, beginning at a salary of \$30 per month and "boarding round." His last term was as Principal of the Grandville public schools. He began his professional studies at Detroit Medical College, and afterwards entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, from which he was graduated with the Class of '78. He opened an office for the practice of his profession at Lamont, Ottawa County, where he remained for one year. In 1880 he located in Hudsonville, where he has resided ever since. At the time of locating here, there were four other physicians in the place, but he soon gained the entire practice and is now the only physician residing here. In addition to his duties as a general practitioner, he does a large amount of surgical work, in fact more than any other surgeon in the county outside of the large cities. His practice is by no means limited to the village, but includes a circuit of eight miles, and his reputation as a skillful and successful physician is as widely known as his name.

In 1870 the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Mary Calista, daughter of L. T. and Maria B. (Scott) Bursley. Her father was born in Hannibal, Oswego County, N. Y., on the 13th of March, 1821, and was one of the very first settlers of this township, having aided in the erection of the first house built in Lamont. He still survives, making his home in this township. His wife, who was born in Ellisburg, N. Y., August 17, 1817, died on the 19th of March, 1872. They were the parents of six children, of whom our subject's wife was the eldest. She was born on the 7th of June, 1851, in Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, Mich., and received her education in the Grandville schools. Their union has resulted in the birth of four children, two of whom are now living, namely: Pearl Cleo and Almon T. The former, who was born in Tallmadge Township February 16, 1873, was graduated from Hope College, in Holland, Mich., in the Class of '90. She became the wife of the Rev. Isaac Van Kampen on the 28th of June, 1893, and now resides in Saddle River, N. J., where he is pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church, American. The parents of Mr. Van Kampen were among the early Dutch settlers of Holland, this State. He is a young man of fine education, having graduated in Sweensburg's Business College, at Grand Rapids; Hope College, at Holland; and Rutgers Seminary, in New Jersey. Our subject's only son, Almon Tanner, was born in Tallmadge Township, Ottawa County, and was graduated from the Hudsonville school in 1893. He is now a student at Hope College.

In his social connections the Doctor is identified with the Masonic order at Coopersville; Lodge No. 346, I. O. O. F., at Hudsonville, and the Order of Maccabees, of which he is Examining Physician. He has been actively identified with the Good Templars for a number of years. His wife also takes an active part in the temperance work. In politics a staunch Republican-Prohibitionist, he has been for years one of the most influential members of his party in this section of the State. In 1890 he was the candidate for Congress from the Fifth Michigan District, and received a large number of votes, although defeated with the re-

mainder of the ticket. He was a delegate to the Prohibition National Convention at Indianapolis, Ind., in 1890, and has also represented his party in other important positions. He has served as Justice of the Peace and in other local offices.

In all matters pertaining to his profession, the Doctor is interested and well informed. He is a member of the State Medical Society, and in 1891 he read a paper before that organization upon the subject of "La Grippe." His contributions to medical journals prove the possession of broad information and wise judgment, and show that he keeps abreast with every advancement made in the profession. He has furnished articles on important topics to the *Physician and Surgeon*, at Ann Arbor, and the *Medical Review*. He is not only prominent in the State Medical Society, but also takes an active part in the National Medical Society, and is now serving his third term as President of the Grand River Valley Medical Society. Throughout the years of his professional labors, his interest in agriculture has been continuous, and he has superintended the management of his large farm. He served as President of the South Ottawa Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and is influential in farming circles. He is also prominent in educational affairs, and is the President of the School Board at Hudsonville. He aided in the organization of the South Ottawa Teachers' Association, and has been an honorary member of the society since its formation.



**h**UBERT STEIN. There is in all Muskegon Township no finer farm than that which is owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch. It comprises one hundred and fifteen acres, upon which have been placed the usual improvements of a first-class estate. The land is divided and sub-divided into fields of convenient size, some of which are utilized for pasturage, others planted with clover and hay, while a considerable

portion of the property is devoted to the raising of cereals. There is a fine orchard on the place, which was planted by Mr. Stein, and from which are annually gathered large harvests of ripened fruits.

A native of the Province of Luxemburg, our subject was born November 3, 1831. His parents, Nicholas and Catherine (Sholters) Stein, were natives respectively of Prussia and Luxemburg, and the former died in Muskegon, Mich. Hubert is the elder of two children, the other being a daughter, Susanna. In his native place he passed the years of his boyhood, and at the age of twenty-one, having resolved to seek a home in the New World, he crossed the broad Atlantic and after landing in the United States proceeded West to Wisconsin, in 1852. Locating at Port Washington, he worked on a farm, receiving a compensation of \$8 per month.

Coming to Muskegon in 1852, Mr. Stein was employed in a sawmill in the woods during the winter season, receiving a salary of \$12 per month. Afterward he engaged in teaming from Grand Rapids to Muskegon, before the advent of the railroad in this section of Michigan. Subsequently he embarked in the lumber business and accumulated a large amount of property, being at one time the owner of twenty-nine hundred acres. He has always been a very industrious and persevering man, and during his prime was accustomed to toil until a late hour every night. While working for himself, he has not been selfish or careless of the rights of others, but all associated with him have found him kind and considerate.

The marriage of Mr. Stein occurred in the Catholic Church at Muskegon in 1855, his bride being Miss Elizabeth Zimet, a native of Luxemburg. Mr. and Mrs. Stein became the parents of six children, as follows: Frank, who was born in Muskegon, and is now the owner of two hundred and eight acres twelve miles east of Muskegon; Susan, who resides with her parents; Catherine, the wife of John Schmidt, of Muskegon; Elizabeth, who is at home; and two who died in infancy. Mr. Stein aided in the erection of the Catholic Church at Muskegon and was the first man married in the edifice. In his political belief, he is a Democrat

in National issues, but is independent in local politics. He has been an incumbent of one or more township offices for twenty-five years—as Treasurer of the township, Highway Commissioner or Supervisor.



**H**ANS THOMPSON. The farming interests of Dalton Township, Muskegon County, are well represented by our subject, who is a leading agriculturist of the community, his home being on section 17. He first opened his eyes to the light of day in the northern part of Norway in 1833. His parents, Thomas and Con (Peterson) Tarjusun, were both born in Norway. They became the parents of seven children, of whom three died in early childhood. Robert and Mary are still living in the Old Country; Amelia died at the age of eighteen years, and Hans completes the number.

The subject of this sketch was confirmed in the Lutheran Church at the age of fourteen years, and from that age made his own way in the world. He began to earn his own livelihood as clerk in a brass store, and in compensation for his services received \$20 per year. After a few years spent in that way, he purchased a small vessel in connection with his brother, but while making a trip to Germany the ship sank and they lost all they had. They then determined to seek a home and fortune in the New World, for the glory of its privileges and advantages had reached them in stories which made them anxious to reach the land of promise. Leaving their old home in 1857, they crossed the water and located in Chicago. Hans Thompson was there employed in a lumber-yard a few months, after which he came to Muskegon, where he began working in a sawmill. He was also employed in a woodyard for several years and was engaged in the fishing business for a few years, but the last-named enterprise did not prove very successful.

In 1868, in Muskegon, Mr. Thompson was

united in marriage with Miss Turena Thomson, and by their union have been born three children: Clara, who is in Chicago; and Herman and Johnnie, both at home. The daughter was educated in North Muskegon and for some time engaged in teaching.

After he had abandoned the fishing trade, Mr. Thompson engaged in lumbering for himself for two years on White River, and during that time succeeded in acquiring some \$2,000. With this capital he purchased land, becoming the owner of his present farm in 1869. He purchased eighty acres, which was then a swampy wilderness, but his labors have transformed it into a highly cultivated tract, it being one of the well-improved farms in the neighborhood, for it is complete in all its appointments and is supplied with all modern accessories. It is located on section 17, Dalton Township, and yields to the owner a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestows upon it.

In his political views, Mr. Thompson is a Republican, and has held a number of school offices. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and all worthy public enterprises receive his hearty support and co-operation. We are pleased to present the sketch of this worthy citizen to the readers of the BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD.



**C**LARENCE G. PITKIN, an able druggist and prominent citizen of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., is a native of the State, and was born in Ypsilanti, November 2, 1868. Our subject was the youngest of the six children of David and Lucy (La Rue) Pitkin. The father, born in Union, Broome County, N. Y., January 12, 1819, was the descendant of an old Revolutionary family, well known in the Colonial days. By trade a mechanic, he was also a practical general agriculturist, and, arriving in Michigan in April, 1868, located on a farm near Ypsilanti, and on the homestead built a wagon-shop, and to that busi-

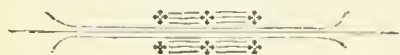
ness he gave a portion of his time. The father also served efficiently as a Justice of the Peace and was a leading man in his locality. In June, 1852, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucy La Rue, a native of Union, Broome County, N. Y., and the daughter of a wealthy stock-drover, who, yet surviving, has nearly reached his centennial birthday, and is now residing in Binghamton, N. Y. The La Rues were intimately associated with the early history of the United States, and, as the name indicates, are of French origin.

The eldest child of David Pitkin was Sarah, born August 18, 1853. She married R. E. Kellogg, a prosperous farmer of Ypsilanti, and has no children. George La Rue Pitkin, born January 16, 1856, married Miss Della Dietrich, and has one child, a daughter, May, born February 8, 1885. George La Rue Pitkin is engaged in the drug business at Brighton, Mich. Jennie Pitkin was born on the 5th of December, 1857, and resides with her parents at Brighton. William D. Pitkin, born April 18, 1863, married Mate Mix and has one child, Guy, born February 27, 1887. W. D. Pitkin is an energetic farmer near Brighton. Ernest N. Pitkin, born May 27, 1865, is an excellent scholar and graduated from the State Normal School at Ypsilanti. He is one of the most successful teachers in the State and for three years has been the Principal of the High School at Hersey, Mich. When our subject was seven years of age his parents removed to Brighton, Mich., where he received his early education in the Union School. When sixteen years old, he became a student in the Ypsilanti Seminary, where he spent one year. During the succeeding two years of his life he was engaged in the drug store of his brother at Brighton. He next took charge of the drug store of C. E. DePew at Stockridge, Mich. In 1885, when the pharmacy law became effective, he underwent a most searching examination before the board, and was the youngest man passing at that time. After two years' experience as manager for Mr. DePew, he spent one year and a-half with H. Love, of Charlotte, Mich. Then, in 1887, he came to Whitehall and took charge of the drug store then owned by Lyman T. Covell.

When the store was burned out in the fire of

September 19, 1890, our subject determined to go into business on his own account and at once purchased a small stock of goods and on the first of the following October was established in his present quarters, one of the most finely appointed and commodious stores in this section of the State. From the first day the business under the supervision of Mr. Pitkin has been a success and, constantly increasing its proportions, now commands a custom second to none in its locality.

Upon September 30, 1891, C. G. Pitkin and Miss Anna Knudson were united in marriage. Mrs. Pitkin, born in Montague, is the daughter of one of the extensive pioneer lumbermen of that part of the State. Our subject has ever been a stalwart Republican, and as a member of the Common Council is a leading factor in the promotion of the local interests and enterprises of Whitehall. Fraternally, he is associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and both within and without this order possesses a host of friends. He and his estimable and accomplished wife occupy a prominent social position and are closely identified with all matters pertaining to the upward growth and advancement of their home locality and the village which numbers them among its enterprising and prosperous residents.



**T**HOMAS W. WATSON is an experienced and prominent farmer of Olive Township, Ottawa County, Mich., the grand natural resources of which region have been developed by the practical and intelligent toil of such men as Mr. Watson, who is a native of England, born February 23, 1852, and the son of Edward G. and Rebecca (Register) Watson, both of whom were natives of that country. The parents came to America in the fall of 1852, and located in Medina County, Ohio, where they made their home until 1872. From there they moved to Ottawa County, Mich., settling in Olive Township, and the father

has resided here ever since. Mr. Watson first purchased twenty acres of land and engaged in tilling the soil, an occupation he carries on at the present time. He had the misfortune to lose his wife in 1889.

Four children were born to this worthy couple, viz.: Elizabeth, wife of Charles Brown, who resides in Ramson Corners, Ohio; T. W., our subject; Harriet A., wife of John Brown, who makes her home in this county; and Edward, Jr., also of this county. The early scholastic training of our subject was received in the common-schools of the Buckeye State, and he continued to make his home there until 1871, when the favorable reports received from this State decided him to make a settlement within its borders. After reaching this State he came directly to Ottawa County, where he purchased eighty acres of land, and on this has resided since. The land was then unimproved and covered with very heavy timber.

At first Mr. Watson engaged in the lumber business until he had succeeded in clearing his place, and then embarked in agricultural pursuits, at which he has been unusually successful. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty-two acres of excellent land, one hundred and forty acres being well cultivated, and on his place is a pleasant rural home and substantial outbuildings. He is a practical, progressive and wide-awake young farmer and his accumulations are the result of many days' hard labor. Aside from his fine farm he is the owner of a fine lot, 100x50 feet, in Waverly, and on this he expects to build a good residence and make other necessary improvements.

With his brother he is engaged in the stock business and handles many cattle, sheep and hogs during the year. Like many of the representative citizens of the county, he is self-made, for he commenced for himself at the age of twelve years, and first received but \$2 per month for his services. While husking corn he received eighteen cents per day, and thus by saving he has reached his present prosperous condition. As a farmer he has been successful; as a citizen public-spirited, enterprising and prominent; and for many year he was connected with the Grange, holding the position of Treasurer during 1878 and 1879.



Mr. Watson's happy domestic life began in 1873, when he was married to Miss Rebecca Dressler, a native of Medina County, Ohio, who was reared to womanhood and married in that county. She was one of five children born to Joseph and Elizabeth Dressler, both of whom were natives of the Keystone State: James, of Akron, Ohio; Sarah, wife of Aaron Camery, of Sharon, Ohio; Charley, of Akron; Rebecca, wife of our subject; and Alice, wife of Perry Varney. Mrs. Dressler was a member of the Lutheran Church and died in full communion with the same in 1890. Mr. Dressler still survives and makes his home in Akron, Ohio. He is a highly esteemed and respected citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Watson's marriage has resulted in the birth of six children: Carrie, Elnora, Iva, Lena, Elizabeth and Effie. Mrs. Watson is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and she and her husband have a host of warm friends.



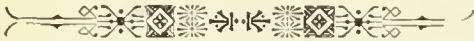
**P**ERLEY LAWTON, for eight years one of the most successful teachers of New York and for two years in Ottawa County, Mich., and now a prosperous agriculturist near Coopersville, Wright Township, born in 1818, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., is the son of one of the early pioneers of the Wolverine State. The father, Josiah T. Lawton, a native of Rhode Island, was born in 1785. The Lawton family were of sturdy and self-reliant Welsh ancestry. The father remained in Rhode Island until about twenty-three years of age, and then removed to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where upon November 26, 1809, he was united in marriage with Miss Betsey Bradley. In 1815 the family journeyed to Michigan and settled in Ottawa County, at Coopersville. The father, in his younger days a millwright and mechanic, later gave his entire attention to agriculture, and when he came to Michigan bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, all wild and wooded land. There were no public roads leading to it, and the country was

very new, most of the business in that part of the State being done in Grand Rapids. There were then only six families in the settlement, and the homestead of the father lay out a little distance from Coopersville, the land all about being densely covered with a growth of pine and hemlock.

The family was composed of one sister and six brothers, and all the sons but one are yet surviving. D. B. Lawton, a preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, resides in Florida. Henry Lawton lives in Coopersville. The others make their home in Wright Township. The father served bravely in the War of 1812, and after a life of busy industry passed away in 1863. Our subject continued to reside in his birthplace, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., until he was twenty-four years of age, when he went to western New York to teach school. After studying in the district schools of his home neighborhood he had completed his studies in Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary and fitted himself for the vocation of teaching. At twenty-six years of age he arrived, May 6, 1846, at the homestead of his father, and after spending a few months upon the farm went out three miles southeast of Coopersville and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, covered with woods and surrounded by Indians, being in all its primitive condition. For forty-seven changing years Mr. Lawton lived upon the farm, which is now brought under a high state of cultivation and annually yields an abundant harvest. Here in his home he now enjoys the fruits of many years' labor and recalls the old times which have gone never to return.

May 9, 1841, Perley Lawton and Miss Nancy Ferguson were married in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., from which State they emigrated to their home in the wilderness of Michigan. By this faithful companion our subject became the father of five children, one of whom died at the age of three years, and four are now surviving: Erwin married Miss Marion Craig, and lives three miles from the old homestead; Wellington R. is a merchant of Berlin; Nora, now Mrs. Coe, resides in Lamont; and Chester makes his home three miles south of the old farm. The first wife died upon the homestead in 1882, and in 1883 Mr. Lawton was

wedded to Mrs. Hannah Green, a native of Ohio, but a resident of Michigan since her sixteenth year, arriving in the Wolverine State in 1868. By her first marriage Mrs. Lawton had four children, three of whom are surviving. George A. Green is living upon a farm three miles west of Coopersville; James W. Green, also a farmer, resides near his brother George; Mary P. (Green) Conklin is at home in Wright Township. For fifteen years our subject as Clerk transacted the business of the township, and for two years was the efficient Superintendent of the County Poor. He was nominated for the Second District as Representative for Ottawa County in 1862, and came within six votes of winning, George Luther being elected. Our subject was debarred from serving in the late war on account of his defective eyesight. From 1838 to 1848, Mr. Lawton taught continuously and found both pleasure and profit in the profession of instructor. In early life a Whig and later a Republican, he has ever been interested in both local and National Government. For nearly half a century an intelligent eye-witness of the rapid development of Michigan, our subject possesses a store of reminiscences almost invaluable and is authority upon the few remaining landmarks of the past.



**WILLIAM KOLB.** For thirty years or more the subject of this biographical sketch has conducted farming operations upon the place which he pre-empted in 1863. A German by parentage and birth, he brought with him upon emigrating to America the solid and substantial traits of character which have contributed to his success. After clearing the land he gave his attention to its cultivation, embellishing it with a neat residence, substantial outbuildings and good fences, and its present attractive appearance is due to his untiring efforts.

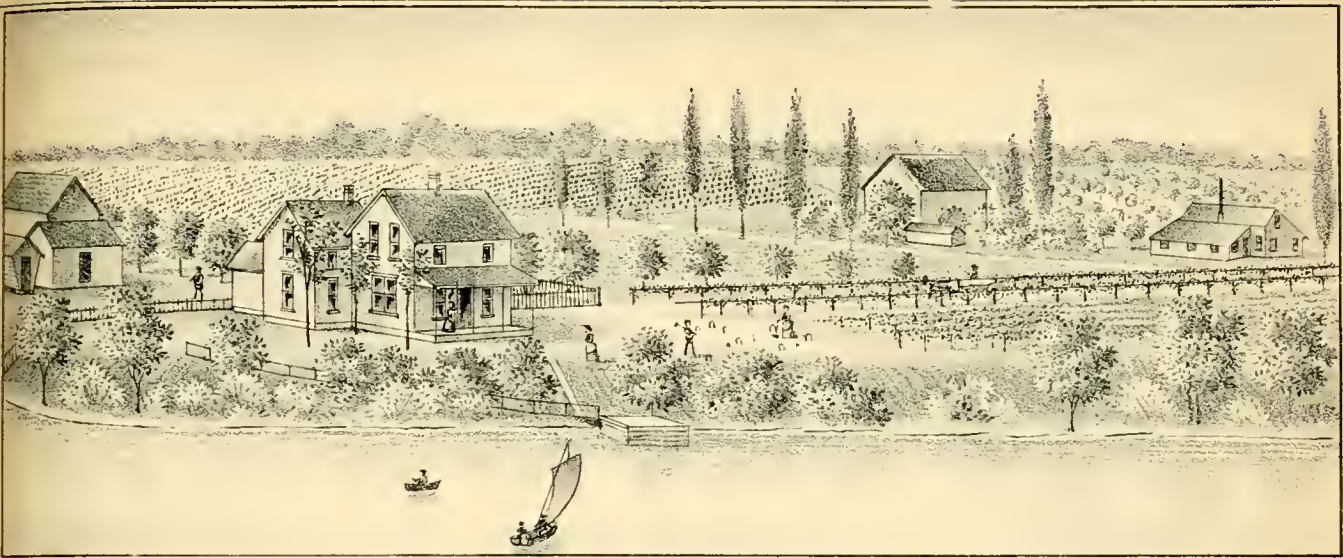
Born in the kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, August 5, 1831, the subject of this sketch is the

son of Leonard and Henrietta (Sproed) Kolb, likewise natives of that kingdom and empire. In 1849, accompanied by their children, they emigrated to the United States and located in York, Pa., where they resided for seven years. In 1856 they came to Michigan, and, settling in Muskegon County, here spent their remaining years. The father's death occurred in 1859. The wife and mother survived him for a number of years, passing away on the 20th of March, 1891. In his chosen calling the father was a farmer, although during a part of his life he engaged in mining.

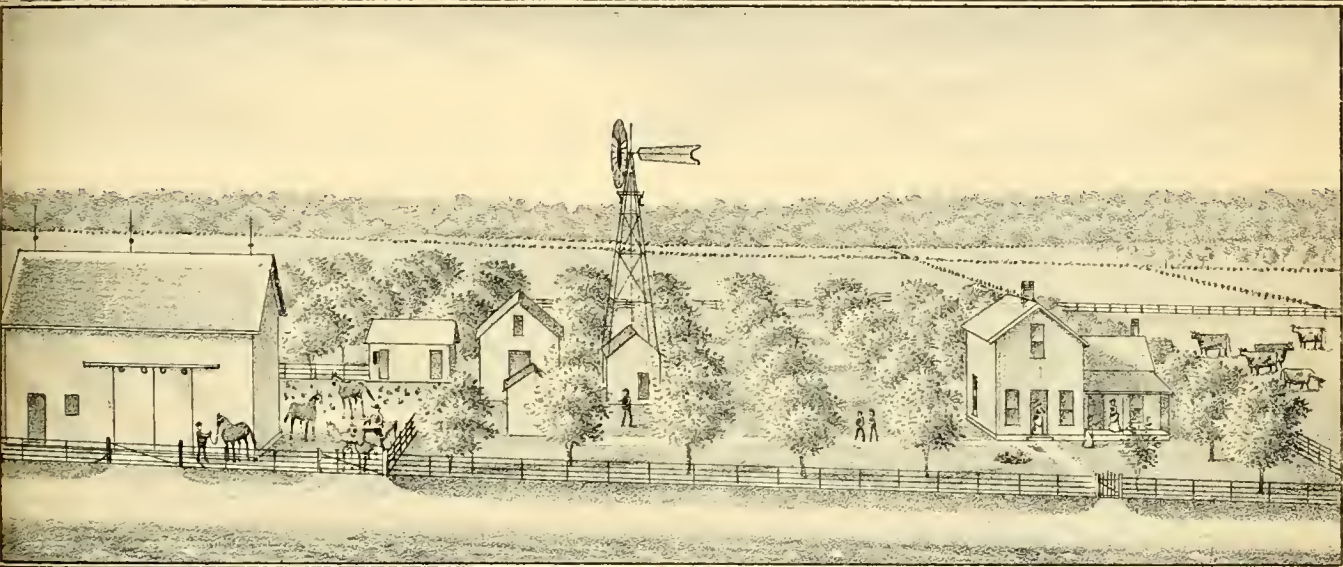
Six children were born of the union of Leonard and Henrietta Kolb, five sons and one daughter, of whom William is the only survivor. In the land of his birth he received an excellent education in the German schools, and at the age of eighteen years accompanied his parents to the United States, settling with them in Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1855 he came to Michigan and located in Muskegon County, where for a time he worked in the employ of others. In September, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Lydia A. Butters, a native of New York, who died on the 17th of January, 1873.

The cause of the Union was so dear to Mr. Kolb that on the 1st of November, 1863, he enlisted as a soldier in Company I, Fourth Michigan Cavalry, and fought in the defense of the Old Flag until June 14, 1865. While surrounding Louisville with his regiment, there was a heavy snow storm, and the exposure resulted in a serious attack of rheumatism, which confined him to the hospital for some time. Upon recovering from that affliction he was seized with a throat disease, which incapacitated him for active service for some time. He still suffers from rheumatism and heart disease, which he contracted in the army. Notwithstanding these misfortunes, he participated in a number of decisive and important engagements, among which may be mentioned the battle of Rome, Ga., May 15, 1864; Kingston, Pumpkin Vine Creek, Dallas, Ga., and many skirmishes. His brother Adam was killed in the battle of the Wilderness, May 4, 1864.

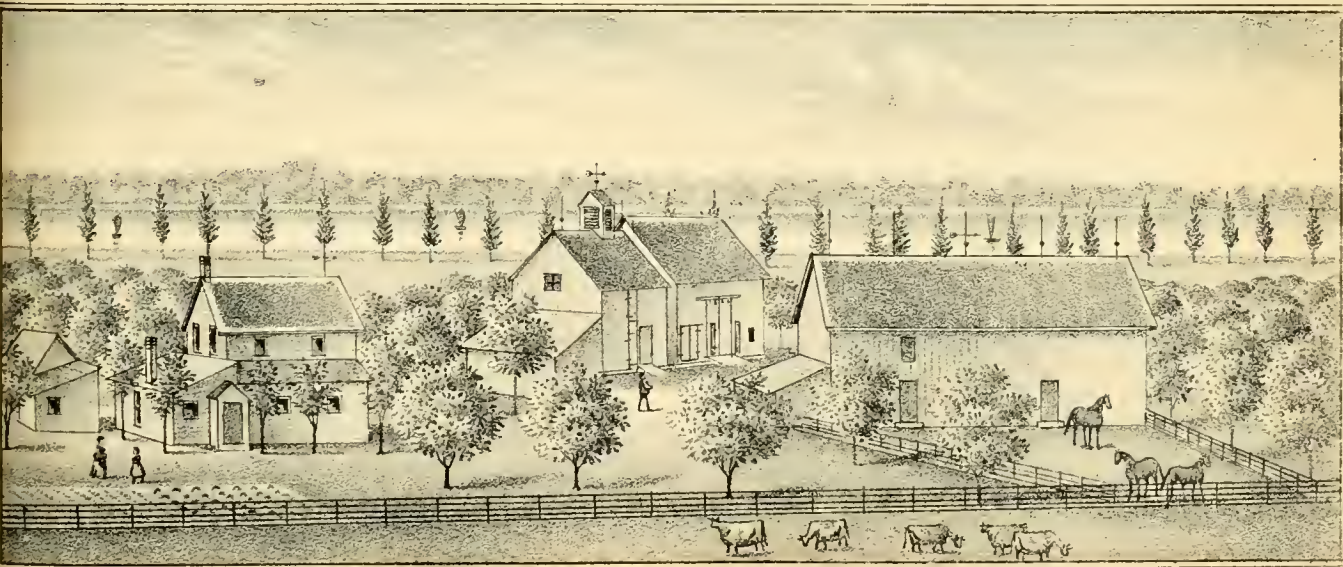
Upon returning to Michigan, Mr. Kolb resumed agricultural operations. In 1863 he entered from



RESIDENCE OF ASA JOY, SEC. 3., SPRING LAKE TP, OTTAWA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF FRANK JONES, SEC. 13., FRUITLAND TP, MUSKEGON CO., MICH.

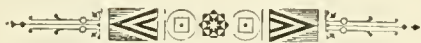


RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM KOLB, SEC. 32., NORTON TP, MUSKEGON CO., MICH.



the Government one hundred and thirty-five acres of wild land, which he has cleared and placed under excellent cultivation. Indefatigable industry has resulted in the accumulation of wealth, and he is now recognized as one of the moneyed men of the township. His second marriage occurred on the 4th of August, 1873, and united him with Miss Theresia Sidel, a native of Germany, who has become the mother of one child, Justina, born September 17, 1882.

The first ballot of Mr. Kolb was cast for James Buchanan, and he has voted for every Republican Presidential candidate since the second term of Abraham Lincoln. He is a man who takes an intelligent interest in all measures calculated to benefit the community, morally, materially or socially. In his religious connections, he is a member of the German Lutheran Church, to which his wife also belongs. Socially, he is a member of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R., of Muskegon.



**F**RANK JONES. Among the well-known and progressive farmers of Fruitland Township, Muskegon County, is this gentleman, who was born in Holstein, Germany, in 1847. His residence is situated on his fine and well-cultivated farm on section 13, where he has lived for many years. He is considered one of the representative men of this district, and has accordingly been honored by his friends and neighbors with various positions of honor and trust, in all of which he has acquitted himself admirably. In 1890, he was chosen Supervisor, being elected by a large majority, and has held that position for three successive terms. For two years he served as Township Treasurer and Justice of the Peace. At the present time, he is one of the School Directors, and can be relied on for the promotion of all educational interests.

Our subject is a son of Frank and Anna C. (Peterson) Jones. His paternal grandparents were Peter and Gregory (Thompson) Jones, who

were natives of Holstein, Germany. Peter Jones was an agriculturist, owning a farm of about one hundred and sixty acres, and during his lifetime he served in various official capacities. He was a devoted adherent of the Lutheran Church. He reared a family of seven children, namely: Elias, Frank, Peter, George, Gregory, Mary and Catharina.

Frank Jones was reared to manhood in the Fatherland, receiving a good education. At the age of twenty-one years, he became a coachman in the household of a German prince. When a few years had passed, he was drafted into the Danish army, in which his father was at the same time serving. After his three years' service in the Danish army, he was drafted into the regular German army, and remained there for four years, during which time several States of Denmark became a part of Germany. During his arduous service he was twice wounded, being upon one occasion cut with a cavalry sabre, and at another time shot in the side. After retiring from the army, he returned to the service of his prince as coachman, and continued thus employed for five years, during which time he married. He still makes his home in Germany, and is now well advanced in years. The mother of our subject had the honor of rearing the three children of the Danish king, Frederick VII. She never left her home in Denmark, dying in her native land.

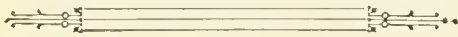
The subject of this sketch is one of four children, two of whom died in childhood. His sister, Anna Sophia, is married and resides in Germany. In the schools of Germany, Frank received an excellent education, which prepared him for an active career as a farmer and citizen. In 1866 he was drafted into the German army. He later left the Fatherland, and, emigrating to the United States, made settlement at Sheboygan, Wis., where for one year he followed the occupation of a teamster. Later he came to Muskegon, and for several years was employed in a sawmill, after which he purchased eighty acres of his present farm.

In 1871 was celebrated the marriage of Frank Jones and Elizabeth Todd, whose father, Andrew Todd, was a much-respected farmer of this county, and lost his life in the late war. Their union has

been blessed with seven children, three sons and four daughters. Their names in order of birth are A. Frank, Anna, Susan, Ella, Lettie, Willie and Fred.

In 1885, Mr. Jones became the owner of eighty acres of land, a portion of his present farm. The money which he thus invested was acquired through years of hard work and careful saving. The land at that time, however, was almost in a wild state and bore little resemblance to what it is to-day. It was originally quite heavily timbered and had been partially cleared of pine. As the years have passed, the owner has placed many substantial improvements upon this farm, which is one of the best in this locality.

In his social relations, Mr. Jones holds membership with several lodges, belonging to Lodge No. 457, K. O. T. M., of Dalton; to German Lodge No. 179, I. O. O. F., of Muskegon; and to Lodge No. 546, County Grange. He casts his ballot in favor of the nominees of the Republican party, to which he gives his earnest support. In religious matters, he has not departed from the faith in which he was brought up, the German Lutheran. For his qualities of integrity and true worth he justly deserves the high respect in which he is held by one and all, and this record of Muskegon County's pioneers and citizens would be incomplete without his life history.



**A**SA JOY, a thoroughly practical farmer and fruit-grower, and a highly-esteemed citizen of Ottawa County, is a native of Michigan and was born in Redford, Wayne County, October 6, 1839. His father, Bennett Joy, was born in New York State and long made his home near Syracuse. When about forty-five years of age he journeyed to the West, and located in Michigan in 1837. While serving bravely in the War of 1812, he was wounded and taken prisoner at Plattsburgh and held in the Quebec prison for three years, being released at the close of the war. He later worked on the

Eric Canal and continued in that business until his removal to Michigan. Making his permanent home in Wayne County, he resided in Redford until his death. His family of eleven children was composed of five sons and six daughters. Two daughters and three sons are yet living.

Our subject, the third son, remained in his birth-place until the death of his mother, when he was about twelve years old. He made his home with a sister in Plymouth until 1862, at which time he enlisted in the service of the Government, entering the Twentieth Michigan Infantry, under Col. Henry A. Morrow. He was placed in the Old Iron Brigade, First Division, First Corps, Army of the Potomac, under Gen. Wadsworth. The first commander of the Army of the Potomac was Gen. Franklin, the second being Gen. John A. Reynolds. Mr. Joy participated in many of the most decisive engagements and aided in covering the retreat from the battle of Bull Run. He fought at Fredericksburg and was one of the soldiers who took an active part in Burnside's "Mud March." He was with the Fifth Wisconsin when they laid the pontoon bridges at the charge of the Rappahannock, on the Fitz Hugh Crossing, before the second battle of Fredericksburg.

From this scene of war our subject proceeded to the battlefield of Chancellorsville, and thence made his way to the conflict at Gettysburg, where in the first day's fight he lost a leg. He was in the hospital in Gettysburg for six weeks, and now receives a pension of \$30 per month, being on the roll of honor. As soon as able he returned to Plymouth, Wayne County, Mich., where for seventeen years he engaged in the milling business. About 1881 he went to Kansas, and, locating in Dorrance, Russell County, remained there for five years, devoting himself entirely to agricultural pursuits. At the expiration of that time he returned to the Wolverine State and settled permanently upon his present homestead. The farm contains eighty-five acres, about fifty of which have been brought to a high state of cultivation and yield annually an abundance of general farming products, as well as a variety of fruit. Mr. Joy meeting with especial success in the culture of grapes and apples.

When twenty-four years of age our subject was united in marriage in Canton, Wayne County, Mich., with Miss Helen E. Safford, whose parents were natives of Connecticut. It was in 1829 that the Saffords emigrated from their Eastern home to the wilds of Michigan, where they shared in the privations and peculiar experiences of the pioneer days. Three of the four children who blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joy now survive: Eva, Mary and Maggie. Eva married G. B. Atkinson and lives on the farm; Mary is the wife of Dr. Brown and makes her home in Dorrance; and Maggie resides with her parents. Mr. Joy is an adherent of the Democratic party, although he has at times advocated the principles of the Greenbackers. Fraternally, he is identified with the order of the United Workmen. In religious affiliation he is a Presbyterian, his wife also being a member of that denomination. In the varied experiences of his life, in times of peace and war, Mr. Joy has with loyal courage done his full duty, and is well worthy of the respect and confidence which he receives from a host of old-time friends and acquaintances.



**J**OHIN N. WAITE, a prominent business man residing in Hudsonville, was born in Summit County, Ohio, September 10, 1840, and is the son of Isaac and Rebecca (Dove) Waite, natives, respectively, of Connecticut and Ohio. His father was born in 1800, and upon attaining to mature years settled in Ohio, following the occupation of a farmer in Summit County, at the same time also engaging at his trade of a shoemaker. At the time of making settlement in Summit County, it was comparatively in the primeval condition of nature, containing few of the improvements made at a later day.

Isaac Waite was three times married. Of his first union two children now survive: Allen, who lives in Hudsonville; and Isaac, a resident of

Kalkaska County. Of his second marriage four children were born, three of whom are still living: Benjamin Franklin, of Wexford County and the father of four children; our subject; and Thomas M., of Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, who is married and has three children. The mother of our subject died in Summit County in 1811, and Isaac Waite afterward married again, but by this marriage had no children. In 1854 he removed from Ohio to Michigan and settled on section 31, Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, of which he was a pioneer. Upon the farm he there improved he spent the remaining years of his life, and there passed away in 1859. The estate is now owned by his youngest son. He was a man of upright character, and a devout member of the Free-Will Baptist Church.

The subject of this biographical notice passed the years of his childhood in Summit County, where he was the recipient of such meagre advantages as were afforded by the neighboring schools. His education, however, has been obtained principally in the school of experience, by self-culture and observation. At the age of nine years he left the parental home, and for the eight years ensuing lived with a neighbor, whose home was a mile from his father's. He accompanied that gentleman to Michigan in 1854, and for two years lived with him in Macomb County, after which he came to Ottawa County and resided with his father, working out on neighboring farms.

On the 10th of June, 1861, the name of John N. Waite was enrolled as a member of Company 1, Third Michigan Infantry, and with his regiment he marched gallantly from Grand Rapids to Washington, D. C., where he did guard duty. From that city he marched to the front and participated in a number of the most important and decisive engagements of the war. After taking part in the first battle of Bull Run, he participated in the Peninsular campaign and also in the siege of Yorktown. For a time he was ill, and was confined in the field hospital, but the day after the battle of Fair Oaks he rejoined his regiment, and continued in active service, though far from well. With his regiment he spent two weeks before Richmond, Va., and from there proceeded to Harrison's Land-

ing. He suffered so severely from chronic diarrhoea that he was sent to Hampton Hospital, Ft. Monroe, and for three weeks remained there unconscious. He gradually recovered his strength, and on the 27th of September, 1862, was discharged from the hospital. Soon afterward he returned to his home in Ottawa County, but many months elapsed before he regained his former health.

The marriage of Mr. Waite occurred December 14, 1862, and united him with Miss Jennie L., daughter of John J. and Mary E. (Whipple) Johnson. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, the father born August 17, 1817, and the mother February 17, 1816. They removed to Michigan from New York State in 1861, and settled in Ottawa County on the farm where they spent their subsequent days. His death occurred in 1867, while she survived a few years, passing away in 1874. They were the parents of six children, of whom five are now living, namely: Euphemia, wife of George Cowan, residing in this township, Ottawa County; Alvina A., Mrs. Benjamin Edson, of this township, and the mother of two children; Mrs. Waite and her twin brother, Lorenzo J., the latter residing in Grand Rapids; and Emma, the wife of Thomas Brown, of Jamestown Township, Ottawa County. The parents of this family were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and were people of upright lives and honorable character.

Mrs. Waite was born in Barry County, N. Y., June 1, 1845, and in her girlhood received an excellent education. For a time she followed the profession of a teacher in Michigan, meeting with success as an instructor and disciplinarian. Her union has been blessed by the birth of eight children, of whom seven are now living. Frank Dorr died November 24, 1873, when an infant four months old. Eva R. married Harry H. Hoyt, of Lawton, Mich., and they have three children, Goldie, Hazel and an infant unnamed. Louis Ruez was united in marriage with Miss Clare B. Kline, by whom he has become the father of two children, Ivan S. and Clyde E. They reside in the village of Hudsonville. John J., a resident of Spring Lake, Mich., married Miss May Lawton and they have one child, Lisle. Carrie Laverne is the

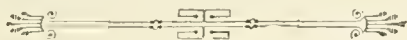
wife of Glenn Barnaby and the mother of two children, Mary G. and Worden J. The other children, Glenn Howard, Theresa B. and Charles Byron, are at home with their parents.

After his marriage Mr. Waite settled on an unimproved farm in Jamestown, Township, where he remained until 1870. He then disposed of his agricultural interests and, removing to Hanley, embarked in the mercantile business, which he conducted until 1883. Thence removing to Hudsonville, he opened a mercantile establishment, which he has since carried on with flattering success. In 1890 he built the store which he now occupies, and which contains a complete stock of drugs, notions, etc. In his social connections, he is identified with the Masonic order at Grandville, and also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which organizations he has served in an official capacity.

In educational matters, Mr. Waite maintains a deep interest, and has frequently served as a member of the local School Board. He has given to his children the best educational advantages possible, and they are all well informed and accomplished. John J., a young man of brilliant attainments, is regarded as one of the best operators on the Detroit and Grand Haven Railroad. In politics, Mr. Waite was formerly a Republican, later an advocate of the principles of the Greenback party, and at present affiliates with the Democrats. He was the nominee of his party for the position of Probate Judge, but, the county being strongly Republican, he was defeated. For eighteen years he has served as Justice of the Peace, and is the present incumbent of that office. He is now serving his third consecutive term as Supervisor, and has the distinction of being the only Democrat ever elected to the office in this township. He was offered the position of Chairman of the County Board, but refused to accept. While a resident of Hanley he was appointed Postmaster, in 1872, and served for three years. In 1884 he was appointed Postmaster at Hudsonville and served until the expiration of his term, when he was removed against the wishes of almost the entire populace. On the 26th of April, 1893, he was again appointed Postmaster, and is the present oc-



cupant of the position. In religious matters, he gives his support to all churches, and while residing in Hanley served as Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He has also served one year in the office of Assistant Superintendent at Hudsonville.



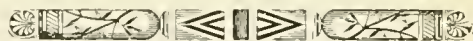
**P**ETER W. LOSBY is a Justice of the Peace and Notary Public of Muskegon, and is recognized as one of the valued citizens and prominent men of this place. He manifests a commendable interest in everything that pertains to its welfare, and always bears his part in supporting those enterprises calculated to advance the general welfare.

Mr. Losby is a Norwegian by birth. His father, Wilhelm Losby, and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Bertie Olson, were natives of Germany and Norway, respectively, and the former followed cabinet-making as a means of livelihood. Our subject was born in Christiana, Norway, on the 25th of January, 1851. The days of his boyhood and youth were quietly passed, no event of special importance occurring during that period. His education was acquired in the common schools, but at an early age he began to make his own way in the world, and his school life was thus cut short. When a lad of nine summers he shipped as cabin-boy on a vessel plying between Norway and England, and continued to live the life of a sailor until nineteen years of age. Hoping to better his financial condition by removing to the New World, for he had heard that excellent opportunities were afforded young men in the land of liberty, he emigrated to America in 1868.

For a few years following, Mr. Losby sailed on the Great Lakes, and made his home in Chicago for two years after his arrival. In 1872 he began working in a sawmill in Muskegon, and to that labor devoted his energies for some time. In 1876, he was elected Justice of the Peace and Notary Public, which office he is acceptably filling. He has also served as Township Trustee of Lake-

side Township, and also Township Clerk for two years, and in 1892 was appointed Acting Police Justice, which office he filled for one year. In politics, he is a staunch Republican, warmly advocating the principles of his party. Socially, he is connected with the Knights of the Maccabees, and with the Modern Woodmen of America, being also a member of Banner Lodge No. 430, I. O. O. F.

On the 12th of July, 1882, Mr. Losby was united in marriage with Miss Carrie M. Marshall, of Muskegon County, and a daughter of James Marshall, a native of England. By their union they have become the parents of three daughters: Persey B., Pearl S. and Lenora A. The family circle yet remains unbroken, and the children are still under the parental roof. The family resides at No. 28 Blodgett Street. No country furnishes to America better citizens than the Scandinavian Peninsula, and our subject is a worthy representative of his countrymen. Since coming to America he has been successful in his business career, and in consequence need never regret his removal to the New World, for it has furnished him a comfortable home and good property.



**J**OHAN DE HAAS, a successful dealer in all varieties of meats and provisions, operates one of the finest and best-stocked establishments of Muskegon, Mich., and is numbered among the leading business men of the city, his enterprise and ability securing him a fine custom, second to none in his locality. A native of the Netherlands and born on the 7th of October, 1836, our subject passed the early years of childhood in his birthplace. The father, Abraham De Haas, a hard-working and intelligent man, finally decided to remove with his family to America, and in 1843, with his wife and children, embarked for the new home beyond the sea. The mother, Jacoba Fisher, a native of Holland, found her time employed during the passage in the care of her little ones, and all were happy when the

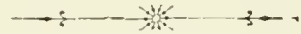
long voyage ended and the family safely landed in New York. From the metropolis of the Empire State journeying to Buffalo, the parents located near the latter city, where the father purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and, settling permanently, soon became identified with the interests of his American home.

John, then but seven years of age, received his primary education in the public school of the home neighborhood, and later attended the free schools of Buffalo. Our subject was trained to habits of industry, and remaining until he was twenty-five years of age in the Empire State was variously employed. Energetic and very ambitious, he at last decided to try the farther West, and in 1861 removed to Michigan, making his home in the city of Muskegon. Here he thoroughly learned the trade of a butcher, and later engaging successfully in the meat business on his own account has since prosperously conducted a large trade.

In December, 1860, John De Haas and Miss Catherine Vandervere were united in marriage in Grand Haven, Mich. The estimable wife of our subject is a native of Holland and the daughter of Henry Vandervere, born in the Netherlands and the descendant of a long line of honest and thrifty Hollanders. The union of Mr. and Mrs. De Haas has been blessed by the birth of four children, one son and three daughters: Jennie, the eldest-born, is the wife of Andrew Wierengo, a well-known citizen of Muskegon; Nellie is at home; Annie is the wife of Edward Kraai; and Abraham is a shipping-clerk for Andrew Wierengo, a wholesale grocer, and is a young man of fine business ability.

The attractive family residence is desirably located at No. 147 Terrace Street, Muskegon. Mr. De Haas is fraternally associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a valued member of Muskegon Lodge No. 92. A man of generosity and kindly feeling, our subject has as a member of the German Aid Society assisted many an unfortunate fellow-countryman, and is ever active in good works and benevolent enterprises. Politically a Republican and an ardent advocate of the principles of the party, Mr. De Haas was

elected Superintendent of the Poor of the city of Muskegon, and with efficiency discharging the numerous duties involved, held with honor the responsible position for five and a-half years. In his business and public work earnest, upright, faithful and energetic, our subject has not only won financial success and gained a competence, but has secured the universal esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.



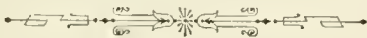
**C**HRISTIAN J. COOK. Ottawa County, Mich., is an Eden of fine farms and agricultural tracts. There are comparatively few very small tracts, and each farmer tries to out-do his neighbor in the cultivation and improvement of his land. Of the many fine, attractive places none are more conspicuous than that belonging to our subject. Olive Township, like many other parts of Ottawa County, has been benelited by an influx into it of the better class of British emigrants, who have helped to build up the agricultural and commercial prosperity of this section of the country.

Christian J. Cook was born in Lincoln, Lincolnshire, England, January 29, 1830, and is a son of William and Frances (Johnson) Cook, also of English nativity. For many years the father followed the hotel business in his native country, but seeing a better opening for that business in America he sold out and crossed the ocean. This was in 1838, and he located at Cleveland, Ohio, where he opened the old St. Clair and Farmers' Hotel. Later he returned to the land of his birth and received his final summons there, in the town of Spaulding, Lincolnshire. He was the father of three children, as follows: William H., who resides in West Point, Wis.; Frances E., deceased, who was the wife of Edward Thompson; and Christian J.

The latter was about eight years of age when his father emigrated to the United States, but he remained in England until 1859. When about fifteen years of age he started out to fight his

own way in life, and decided to become a sailor. For four years he was on a vessel which sailed from Blythe, and for many years he followed the sea. Finally he came to America, in 1859, and located at Chicago, where he remained for twenty-one years. Most of this time he was engaged in the furniture business, and also engaged in painting, which he carried on very successfully. He came from there to this county in 1880, purchased thirty acres of land, and since then has added to the original tract, until he now owns two hundred acres of valuable land, seventy-five acres being under a fine state of cultivation.

Mr. Cook has been twice married, first in Bristol, England, to Miss Mary A. Bourton, daughter of William and Ann (Price) Bourton. Eleven children were born to this union, six of whom lived to mature years, namely: Frances M., deceased, who was the wife of G. Anys; Harriet E., deceased, the wife of William Goodin; H. E., deceased; Christian B., at home with his parents; Martin J.; and Ella M., who resides in Kansas City. Mrs. Cook died in 1883, when fifty-four years of age. Mr. Cook's second marriage was to his first wife's sister, Mrs. Caroline Scott, their nuptials being celebrated in 1888. In the year 1892 Mr. Cook was elected Justice of the Peace, and discharged the duties incumbent upon that position in a very satisfactory and creditable manner. Although a representative Englishman, Mr. Cook has ever been a strong advocate of American institutions, and gives his hearty support to all worthy enterprises. In politics he is a Republican, and is deeply interested in all public improvements, contributing liberally of his means to further all enterprises.



**T**HOMAS D. SMITH, M. D., a retired physician of Muskegon County, and a public-spirited and popular citizen of Ravenna Township, was born in New Milford, Conn., August 23, 1815. He is the son of James W. Smith,

a native of the State of New York, who removed from there to Connecticut in early manhood, and engaged in farming. In the Nutmeg State he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Canfield, a native of Connecticut, and after their union they remained in New Milford until 1824. Then, returning to the Empire State, the father settled in Pine Plains, Dutchess County, where he resided until he departed this life in 1876.

The next to the youngest in a family of six children, the subject of this notice is now the only survivor of the entire number, with the exception of Benjamin, a resident of Minneapolis, Minn. In the village of Pine Plains, Thomas D. received his primary education, and at the age of twenty years he entered the school at Amenia, Dutchess County, N. Y., where he conducted his literary studies for six months. He aided his father on the home farm, and worked with unwearied zeal as a tiller of the soil until he was twenty-four, when he lost the use of his right hand. This unfortunate accident forced him to seek some other occupation than that of an agriculturist.

Having cherished a fondness for the medical profession, our subject commenced to study under Dr. Benjamin S. Wilber, a prominent practitioner of Pine Plains, N. Y., with whom he read for three years. Afterward he attended lectures at the old College of Physicians and Surgeons on Crosby Street, N. Y., where he prosecuted his medical studies during 1844-45. At that time he was too poor to continue his studies, and the faculty offered to take his note and allow him to complete the course of instruction, but Dr. Parker advised him to remove to the West and practice for a few years, then return to New York and finish the course.

Acting upon that advice, the young physician came to Michigan, and for three months sojourned in Grand Rapids. His brother had started a lumber-yard in Chicago, and, proceeding there, he remained in his employ for six months, when the burning of the lumber-yard obliged him to seek other employment. He came to Ravenna, Muskegon County, in 1847, but there were so few people in this village at the time that he was not justified in practicing his profession. He therefore

found employment at other work, and has continued to make his home here ever since, retiring from active practice in 1867.

A Republican in political belief, the Doctor has served sixteen years as a member of the County Board of Supervisors, and has occupied other local positions. He has engaged considerably in conveyancing, etc. Socially, he is identified with Ravenna Grange No. 373. The Doctor has never cared to exchange the independent life of a bachelor for the uncertainties of matrimony, and for more than forty years has remained continuously at the same boarding-house.



**HENRY DE KRUIF.** Among the successful enterprises owned and conducted by the citizens of Zeeland may be mentioned the agricultural-implement business, of which the subject of this sketch is the genial proprietor. In the year 1882 he located in this village and embarked in the business in which he has since engaged. So greatly was he prospered that in 1892 he erected a commodious and substantial building, admirably adapted to the needs of his trade and stocked with a complete assortment of first-class farming machinery. He gives employment to five men, and sells a large number of implements throughout the county.

A native of Ottawa County, our subject was born at his father's home on section 17, Zeeland Township, and is the son of Henry and Dina (Van DeLuyster) De Kruif. His paternal grandfather, Anthony De Kruif, was a laborer in Holland, and had a family of two sons and four daughters. Of these children, John emigrated to America and died while serving in the Union army during the Civil War; Henry is the father of the subject of this sketch; and Peternella is Mrs. John Peck, and resides at Greenville.

Henry De Kruif, Sr., was born in Gelderland, Holland, July 25, 1817, and was reared to manhood in the land of his birth. Emigrating to America in

1846, he accompanied Dr. A. C. Van Raalte to Holland, Mich., but soon afterward came to Zeeland. As he soon gained considerable knowledge of the English language, he was employed by the firm of Rabbers & Rekken to do business for them among the English-speaking people. After engaging in the mercantile business for two years, he purchased an eighty-acre tract of land, which he cleared and improved and upon which he conducted agricultural operations. In 1861, he removed to the village of Holland, where for three years he engaged in the butcher business, and later carried on a tannery. He returned to his farm in 1866 and there remained, engaged in agricultural pursuits, until the spring of 1892, when he came to the village of Zeeland, and now lives retired from active labors.

Politically, Henry De Kruif, Sr., was a Democrat prior to 1860, since which time he has been an active member of the Republican party. In his religious belief he is a member of the Reformed Church, in which he has officiated as Deacon. He was twice married. His first wife bore him one son, Geerlinus E., now a resident of Grand Rapids. She died in Holland when comparatively young. The second marriage of Mr. De Kruif resulted in the birth of eight children: Johannes, Anthony, Dina J., Henderika (who died at the age of thirteen), Henry, William, Petër J. and Jannes. The mother of this family was born in Zeeland, Holland, December 22, 1824, being the daughter of Jannes and Dina (Naaije) Van DeLuyster, who came to the United States in 1847, and located in Zeeland, where the father dealt in real estate. He engaged in farming, and accumulated large and valuable landed possessions. A benevolent man, kind and whole-souled, he was highly regarded in this community, and was the "court of arbitration" for all who were in trouble in the community.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the home farm and received a commercial education at Grand Rapids. At the age of twenty-three he began in life for himself. In 1880, as above stated, he came to Zeeland, where he has since conducted an extensive and profitable business. His attention is devoted closely to his business,

and he has very little time for political affairs. However, he is interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his community, and casts his ballot for the candidates and principles of the Republican party. His fellow-citizens have frequently solicited him to accept nominations for offices of trust, but he has steadily refused all such honors, preferring to give his attention exclusively to his business affairs.

The marriage of Mr. De Kruif occurred April 11, 1889, and united him with Miss Henderika J. Kremer, who was born in Holland. Her parents, Rev. J. and Maria Johannah (Kroeze) Kremer, were also natives of Holland, whence they emigrated to the United States in 1878, and are at present living in Detroit, Mich. One son has blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. De Kruif, Paul Henry. The religious home of the family is in the Dutch Reformed Church, now known as the Reformed Church of America. In the social circles of Zeeland Mr. De Kruif is well known, and with his excellent wife occupies a high place in the regard of all who know him.



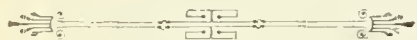
**H**A. O'CONNOR, a leading general agriculturist and successful fruit-grower of Cedar Creek Township, Muskegon County, Mich., owns a finely located farm, one of the most highly cultivated in the district of Holton. Mr. O'Connor is a native of the Queen's dominions, and was born in Quebec, Canada, June 16, 1816. His parents, Andrew and Hannah J. (Lewis) O'Connor, were both born in the United States, the father in New York, and the mother in Pennsylvania, but afterward removing to Canada, were married there. Andrew O'Connor was a machinist by trade, a nail-maker. He yet resides in Canada and lives in the province of Ontario, a hale and hearty man of seventy-five. The mother also surviving is seventy-three years of age. They reared a family of five children, of whom Henry

was the eldest-born; Mary is the wife of Herman Clark; William is a cabinet-maker; Sarah married Robert Lowery; James is engaged in the railroad business in Canada. All the sons and daughters, with the exception of Henry, reside in the province of Ontario and are well known and highly respected for their ability and upright character. Our subject, reared in his birthplace, was from his earliest youth trained up to habits of industry and self-reliance.

The parents of Mr. O'Connor, although not richly endowed with this world's goods, gave to their children the best possible opportunity of improvement afforded by their limited means. Our subject received his education in the province of Ontario, and after having from boyhood assisted his parents to care for the younger members of the family, finally, at the age of twenty-four years, began life for himself. He learned after his marriage the trade which he followed for a time, that of a tinsmith. Having long resolved to try his fortunes in the United States, Mr. O'Connor immediately after forsaking the estate of single blessedness journeyed with his bride to the far West of Michigan. The lady whom our subject married was Miss Margaret Anderson, a native of Ontario and a daughter of Robert and Letitia (Carlton) Anderson. This estimable lady is the mother of four children. Herman and Herbert (twins) were the eldest of the three sons; Wiley was the next in order of birth; and Minnie, the only daughter, was the youngest of the family.

Immediately after arriving within the borders of the State, Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor settled in Ionia County, township of Saranac, where our subject fitted himself for the trade which he followed continuously for eight years, finding ready and profitable employment as a tinsmith. At last deciding to devote himself to agricultural pursuits, Mr. O'Connor in 1878 made his home in Muskegon County, and located on section 35, township of Holton, on Government land. In 1885 he purchased his present farm, consisting then of eighty unimproved acres. Forty acres of some of the best soil of Michigan he has now brought under a profitable state of cultivation and further im-

proved with a handsome residence, substantial barns and outbuildings. Our subject aside from general agriculture has a peach orchard of three acres and is constantly adding to the value of his farm by a wider range of improvement. Fraternally our subject is connected with Saranac Lodge No. 168, I. O. O. F., and politically is a Democrat. He has filled with ability various local offices of trust, and for one year served efficiently as Township Clerk, also for a twelvemonth performing the duties of Township Treasurer to the great satisfaction of the citizens of the locality, by whom he was elected in 1893 to the office of Justice of the Peace. Our subject is a member of the Grange and liberally aids in all fraternal matters pertaining to the welfare of the public.



**H**ON. JOHN B. PERHAM, a prosperous business man and leading merchant of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, Mich., has for twenty-seven years been identified with his present line of trade, and for thirty years resided in the same locality of the State, at first engaging in the avocation of a teacher. Born in Franklin County, N. Y., our subject was the second in a family of seven children, six of whom survived to mature years. Lorin O. is a well-known druggist of Spring Lake; John B. is our subject; Phoebe, the widow of Henry Cleveland, conducts a business at Nunica; Jane, Mrs. Perry, resides in Narragansett Bay, N. J.; Mary, married, resides in Jefferson County, N. Y.; and Jason is a druggist of Kent County, Mich. The parents of our subject, Levi and Martha (Sole) Perham, were long-time residents of New York, in which State the mother was born, the father being a native of Vermont. The Perhams are among the leading families of the East, and for generations have been numbered with the successful merchants and professional men of New England and the Empire State. Mr. Perham received his education and early training in his native county, but at seventeen years of

age, beginning life for himself, was employed in the Government survey in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. After devoting one season to this employment, he taught school three winters in Grundy County, Ill. and prospected in the summer through Minnesota and Kansas.

At the expiration of this length of time, he found employment as a teacher in Spring Lake, and engaged in that avocation for three continuous years, then entering into the business in which he yet remains and which he has so profitably handled for so long a time. His partner was the Hon. Allen C. Adsit, of Kent County, and both of the firm being energetic and enterprising the business thrived and was soon one of the best in this part of Ottawa County. After eight years Mr. Perham bought out his partner, and has since conducted merchandising alone, and now has the largest store and greatest variety of goods offered to the custom of the buyers of Spring Lake and its vicinity. In 1868 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Cassie Cross, daughter of Samuel Cross. Mr. and Mrs. Perham have a foster-daughter, but no children of their own. They are both valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have been professing Christians for many years, our subject especially being active in the support and extension of religious work and influence. For four years he has been President of the Ottawa County Sunday-School Association, and for twenty years has been Superintendent of two Sunday-schools in Spring Lake. In all local matters of religious interest and enterprise he has taken a prominent part, and is widely known and highly esteemed as a vital factor in the promotion of good and the elevation of humanity.

When only seventeen years of age Mr. Perham joined the Good Templars and has during his entire life been a total abstainer. He was instrumental in raising money by subscription to erect the first Temperance Red Ribbon Hall in Michigan, where the Reynolds movement was inaugurated, and was its President for many years. Our subject is a pronounced Republican, and has occupied with distinction a high place in the local councils of the party. For several years he was a member of the Ottawa County Republican Com-

mittee, and in 1880 was elected to the State Legislature, and with ability and to the great satisfaction of his constituents held the office two terms. For two terms our subject also discharged the duties of Supervisor of Spring Lake, and was also Town Clerk two terms. For twenty-five years as an efficient member of the School Board Mr. Perham has materially aided in the advancement of educational facilities in the county, and has been a true and faithful friend to all progressive interests. At the time he was a member of the Legislature he was Chairman of the Committee on Education, during his last term, and served as a member of the committee his first term. While a member of the Liquor Committee he made a canvass of the Legislature on the liquor question. He was also on the Engrossment and Enrollment Committees. Our subject enjoyed the honor of being elected as Delegate to the Republican National Convention which met at Minneapolis in 1892, and served as Chairman in the convention of the Fifth District of Michigan, at which time he was selected for the responsible position. Aside from his other occupations, Mr. Perham has prosperously and extensively handled real estate, and self-reliantly winning his upward way commands the confidence of the entire community.



**J**AMES E. WILKINSON, who is chaplain of the Akeley Institute of Grand Haven, Mich., was born in Essex County, Mass., February 9, 1857, and is a son of Thomas Wilkinson, a native of England. The father died in the Bay State in November, 1879. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mary Stanelyffe, and was also born in England.

After attending the common schools of Massachusetts, Mr. Wilkinson whose name heads this record entered a preparatory school in Nashotah, Wis., and afterwards became a student in Harvard University, from which he was graduated, after completing the classical course, in 1884. He

entered the ministry of the Episcopal Church, and in the autumn of 1881 he became rector of St. Thomas' Church, of Hamilton, N. Y., where he remained for sixteen months. He then went to Utica, N. Y., and became assistant minister of Grace Church, under Rev. C. T. Olmstead, remaining with him until April, 1888, when he came to Grand Haven, Mich.

Ere his removal to the West, Mr. Wilkinson was married, in January, 1885, to Miss Abbie Eggar, of Rome, N. Y., a highly educated lady, whose culture and refinement would give her a leading place in any circle of society. Their union has been blessed with three children, a son and two daughters: Laurence, Mary and Elizabeth.

Having been appointed rector of St. John's Episcopal Church of Grand Haven, Mich., Mr. Wilkinson entered upon the duties of that position in the summer of 1888, and in the autumn of the same year took charge of Akeley Institute, which was duly opened to the public on the 12th of September, with our subject as chaplain and his wife as principal. These positions they still hold. The land upon which the institute stands was donated by H. C. Akeley, now of Minneapolis, Minn., in memory of his daughter, who died in 1887. He was formerly a resident of Grand Haven, and was much interested in the growth of the city. The erection of the new building was due largely to the generosity of Bishop Gillespie, of Grand Rapids, who is Bishop of western Michigan, and the edifice was erected at a cost of \$22,000. It is a handsome brick building, 40x130 feet, three stories in height, built in modern style, supplied with all the latest improvements and beautifully located on Akeley Hill, where it commands a fine view of the surrounding country.

This institution was founded for the education of young ladies, and the first year had an attendance of eleven boarding pupils and twenty day pupils. Since then the attendance has increased to thirty boarding students and fifteen day pupils. The classical languages are taught, also German and French, art, music and the sciences. Young ladies are there prepared for entering the universities. The professor devotes his entire time to the institute, and it has made a steady and healthy

growth under his supervision, and bids fair to become one of Michigan's great seats of learning for young ladies. Mr. Wilkinson is a genial, affable gentleman, whose excellent education and natural ability make him well qualified for the position he so ably fills. In 1888 he was granted the degree of Ph. D. He has direct charge of the history and mental science classes and the classics. His most estimable wife has the personal care of the young ladies and is principal of the institute.



**W**ILLIAM H. H. CROCKER, a practical agriculturist, honored citizen and old settler of Cedar Creek Township, Muskegon County, Mich., has held with high ability important local offices, and is widely known and respected by a large circle of old-time friends. Our subject was born in Genesee County, N. Y., September 11, 1813, and was the son of James and Rebecca (Morgan) Crocker, natives of New Hampshire. A paternal ancestor, James Crocker, and his two brothers emigrated to America in an early day, locating in New England. The father, although a patriotic citizen, did not enlist in the War of 1812, but, drafted after the burning of Buffalo, furnished a substitute. Immediately succeeding the marriage of the parents they located in New Hampshire, and there remained six years, then returning to New York, where the father died. The mother passed away in Illinois, at the home of her daughter. James and Rebecca Crocker were blessed by the birth of six children. Caroline M., the mother of two children, is the wife of Abram Haight; William H. H. is our subject; Mary A. married Henry D. Hinman, of New York State; Lucius F., Maria L. and James M. are all deceased.

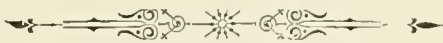
Mr. Crocker attained to mature years in the Empire State, and in boyhood received a good education in the common schools of the home district. He fitted himself for the battle of life by

learning the art of printing, and while a young man self-reliantly taught school. He, however, later became a miller by trade, and for thirty-eight years pursued the avocation, during that entire length of time prosperously conducting an extensive milling business. In 1845, our subject emigrated from New York State to Michigan, and located at first in Ionia County, where, as at the East, he successfully engaged in milling. Mr. Crocker continued to reside in that part of the Wolverine State until 1871; then, removing, he homesteaded his present property, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, pleasantly situated in Twin Lake, Cedar Creek Township, and now one of the finest farms in this section of Muskegon County, fifty acres of the then wild land having been brought under a high state of profitable cultivation and well improved with excellent and commodious buildings.

In 1845, William H. H. Crocker and Miss Eunice W. Williston were united in marriage in the Empire State. Mrs. Crocker was the daughter of Fordyce and Malintha (Cheney) Williston, natives of Massachusetts, their ancestors being among the early settlers of the old Bay State. Mr. and Mrs. Williston were the parents of ten children. Hiram H. was the eldest-born; Emilie L. married Dennie Chapman; Eunice W. married our subject; Sardonía W. married Albion Fuller; Sarah A. married Myron Balcom; Mary A. became the wife of J. A. Whipple; Winfield S. and George J. are next in order; Martha P. is the wife of M. P. Malcomson; and Emilie J. married Henry Minich. The father and mother of these sons and daughters died in New York State. Mr. Williston passing away May 23, 1845, aged forty-seven. His wife had preceded him to the better land May 26, 1846, dying at the age of forty-five years. Unto the union of our subject and his estimable wife were born five children: William H., deceased; Ellis, wife of W. F. Odion; Arthur H., deceased; Dennie W., deceased; and Theron B. at home. Mrs. Crocker is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has ever been active in religious work. Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Martin Van Buren, and also voted for W. H. Harrison, "old Tippecanoe."



Theron B. Crocker, the youngest child of the family, was born in Ionia County, Mich., April 7, 1865. He was educated principally in Muskegon County, and attended for one year the High School in Lowell, Mich. Still remaining upon his father's homestead, he began life for himself at the age of twenty-one, working the old farm upon whose broad acres he was reared. In 1891 he was united in marriage with Miss Ida M. Hovey, of Michigan. This accomplished lady resided near Romeo, and was the daughter of Perry and Elen-dor (Nash) Hovey, natives of the Wolverine State. Mr. Hovey makes his home in Oceana County, where he has a peach farm. Mrs. Hovey died in 1888, having been the mother of these children: Edwin A.; Eliza, wife of A. Hannum; Frank; Ida M. and William. The sixth and youngest died in early childhood. The happy home of Mr. and Mrs. Theron Crocker has been brightened by the birth of one child, Bessie E., born September 14, 1892. Mr. Crocker is a member of the Grange and, a popular man, was in 1889 elected Township Clerk and, re-elected the succeeding year without a single op-posing vote, has in that responsible position for four terms given most efficient public service to the home community, by whom he is regarded with thorough confidence.



**G**EORGE L. LEFEVRE, M. D., the efficient and popular City Physician and surgeon of Muskegon, Ottawa County, Mich., is a gen-tleman of superior professional attainments and high culture, and fully enjoys the esteem and con-fidence of a wide circle of acquaintanee in his present locality. Our subject, a native New Eng-lander, was born in Grand Isle County, Vt., Octo-ber 22, 1865. His father, Matthias Le Fevre, was a native of Montreal, Canada, but went to the Green Mountain State, where he was reared and educated, having long passed his youth before he emigrated to the State of Michigan, now his home, his residence being in the city of Muskegon. The

ancestors of the Le Fevre family dwelt in France, but long ago a forefather, coming to America, gave to his descendants a home in "the Land of the Free," and insured to our country a citizen-ship which has distinguished itself for broad in-telligence and liberal spirit. The mother, Eleanor La Brack, was also of French extraction, and had within her veins the blood of a brave and heroic people, possessing both talent and patience. She was a native of New York, but for some length of time made her home in Vermont, after her mar-riage residing in Grand Isle County.

Dr. Le Fevre received an excellent preparatory education in the schools of his native county, and passing his youthful days in his birthplace had attained to his sixteenth year before he left Ver-mont. In 1881 he emigrated to the farther West and located in Muskegon, where, not long after, he began to read medicine with Dr. Marvin. Ambitious and enterprising, our subject lost no op-portunity for improvement, and later studied in Chicago, taking a complete course of lectures in Hahnemann College, from which well-known insti-tution of medicine he graduated with honor in 1891. Without loss of time Dr. Le Fevre, now a full-fledged M. D., entered upon the homeopathic practice of medicine in Muskegon and the sur-rounding country. Although but comparatively a very brief time has elapsed since our subject be-gan his professional work, he has achieved a suc-cess almost phenomenal, and, enjoying a wide-spread popularity in both city and country, goes forth day after day upon a wide round of profes-sional calls, extending far out into the country.

Alike in storm and sunshine faithful to duty, Dr. Le Fevre has rapidly won his upward way to an assured success in his chosen vocation, his courteous manners and professional skill gaining him the hearty good-will and confidence of all with whom he comes in social or business contact. In 1893 appointed City Physician, he is now filling the position to the utmost satisfaction of his fel-low-townsmen, and at the same time neglects no detail of his large private practice. Our subject is in religious affiliation a member of St. John's Baptist Church and is foremost in good work, his profession giving him an insight into many scenes

of suffering and privation, the depths of whose misery only a family physician may ever know. Politically, Dr. LeFevre is deeply interested in the vital questions of the day, and in common with all good American citizens is ever ready to do his full share in the promotion of matters of public welfare. He is a favorite with the general public, and in the city of Muskegon numbers his friends by the score.



**C**YRIL P. BROWN, M. D., a popular and highly successful medical practitioner and skillful surgeon of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, Mich., is a native of the State. Our subject, born in Lenawee County, is the son of Dr. David Brown, one of the pioneer settlers of the last-named county, but a native of Massachusetts. Dr. David Brown emigrated with his parents from New England to the Wolverine State when only a child and attained to manhood upon the farm of the paternal grandfather, one of the earliest and most energetic of the general agriculturists of Lenawee County. The father completed his medical studies in Pittsfield, Mass., and, thoroughly adapted to his profession by natural gifts and education, became eminent as a physician and surgeon. Aside from his professional duties, as a public-spirited and liberal citizen he devoted himself with enthusiasm to the betterment of mankind. From his earliest youth a staunch Abolitionist, he did not live to witness the freedom of the slave, but passed away in 1858, mourned as a public loss. The mother, in youth Miss Harriet Peck, of Lenawee County, was a faithful helpmate to the pioneer physician, and tenderly cared for the three sons and one daughter who blessed the Michigan home. Our subject, the eldest of the family, like his father enjoyed the advantages of an excellent education, and after a thorough course in the Hillsdale (Mich.) College, graduated with honor in the Class of '68.

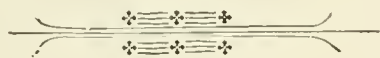
Deciding to enter the same profession in which

his father had made such an enviable record, our subject matriculated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and received his degree in 1870. At the age of seventeen Dr. Brown, answering to the call of his country, enlisted in Company F, Fourth Michigan Infantry, and was detailed for service in the Army of the Potomac. He participated as his initial engagement in the battle of Fredericksburg, and was in various conflicts, remaining in the army until 1864, during which year he was discharged for disability. In 1869, Dr. Brown was united in marriage in the county of his birth with Miss Clara J. Ames, the young couple making their home in Lenawee County until their removal, in the fall of 1871, to Spring Lake, where they have since continued to reside. During the past twenty-two years Dr. Brown has been constantly before the public, not only as a professional man but in various official positions, to the work of which he has given the executive business ability for which he is distinguished. For the first four years of his residence in his present locality our subject was Consulting Physician at the Magnetic Mineral Springs. A man of enterprise, he in 1888 assisted in the organization of the Clinker Boat Manufacturing Company, of Spring Lake, and as its President aided in the establishment of a fine jobbing trade in boats. Dr. Brown is interested in gold-mining in the Okanagon mining district, Washington, and was one of the first upon the ground after the discoveries of treasure.

Our subject has held every office in Grand Army Post No. 279, of Spring Lake, and was one of the charter members of the post. For two terms he served as Commander of the post, and at the time Gen. Rutherford was Department Commander he served as Medical Director of the State Department. At the State Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, held at Bay City in the year 1890, the delegates to the National Encampment, to be held in Milwaukee, were instructed to cast their vote for Dr. Brown as Surgeon-General. Gen. Alger at a later date announced himself as candidate for Commander-in-Chief, and Dr. Brown withdrew in his favor. Gen. Alger having been elected, the Doctor served on his staff with the rank of Colonel.

While Gen. Duffield was Department Commander Dr. Brown was for one term a member of his staff. For six years he was President of the United States Pension Board at Muskegon and likewise enjoyed the honor of being a delegate to the National Convention which nominated Benjamin Harrison, in the fall of 1888, to the Presidency of the United States.

Politically, the Doctor has been all his life a staunch Republican, his father early being an old-line Whig and afterward an Abolitionist of the most pronounced type. The father was also a devout member of the Baptist Church and an earnest Christian worker. Our subject is fraternally associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons and has long been connected with that ancient order. He is also a member of the Ta Delta, of Hillsdale, and among the pleasant memories of his school-days was the companionship of Will Carleton, who was a roommate of his for two years. Financially prospered, Dr. Brown has enjoyed the pleasure of extended trips to the West, and in 1892, accompanied by his wife, visited the Pacific Slope and spent many months. One son has blessed the home of our subject and his accomplished wife, Dana Brown, now connected with the boat business, and an energetic and enterprising young man, with a bright future before him. It is safe to say that from a social and business standpoint no man in all the county of Ottawa more fully possesses the confidence and esteem of the general public than our subject, who literally numbers his friends tried and true by the score.



**O**TTO VAN DYK. Of the younger element of our prominent, energetic and influential citizens, none is better known than Otto Van Dyk, who is one of the successful and substantial agriculturists of Holland Township. Like the majority of prominent citizens of the county, he is a native of Holland, born in West

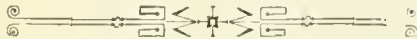
Vriesland in 1831, and during the time he has made his home here he has shown himself to be endowed with superior ability and much energy and perseverance. As a farmer Mr. Van Dyk has attained an enviable reputation, for in conducting his farming operations he has brought his good sense and his practical views to bear, and has accumulated a fair share of this world's goods. Satisfied that he has contributed his share toward the advancement of the county, Mr. Van Dyk has retired from the active duties of life, and can now enjoy the fruits of his industry.

The grandfather of our subject, John Van Dyk, was a man of education and a teacher in the schools of his native country. He reared a family of twelve children, but the father of our subject, Gerret Van Dyk, was the only one who came to the United States. The latter received a good education in early life and was a carpenter and mason by trade. When twenty-four years old he married Miss Elizabeth Pasma, daughter of Jacob and Trentayn Pasma, and shortly afterward joined the Christian Reformed Church, in which he was ever afterward an active member. In 1845 he emigrated with his wife and family to the United States and first located in Ashland County, Md. For two years he worked in the iron mines there, and then removed to Milwaukee, Wis., which was then but a village, with no railroad or telegraph communication.

Mr. Van Dyk made the trip from Albany to Buffalo by canal and the remainder of the way by steamboat. Ten months later he came with his family to the settlement of Holland, Ottawa County, Mich., where A. C. Van Raalte had started a new town, and there he followed his trade until 1850, when he came to the farm now owned by our subject and bought two hundred acres of Government land at \$1 per acre. He was the first white man to chop a tree in North Holland. On this farm, which he cleared and improved, he lived to see all of his children and one grandchild married, and by his honorable conduct through life became possessed of many warm friends. He was public spirited and progressive and was one of those who established the church at North Holland. His children, seven in number,

were named as follows: John, Jacob, Otto, Albert, Broer, Tryntje (who married John Ten Have) and Catherina, wife of Aaron Brawer.

The scholastic training of our subject was received principally in the Old Country, and he remained with his father, assisting on the farm, until 1855, when he married Miss Hendrieka Weener, daughter of Kerst and Martha Weener. She was born in the Netherlands and came with her parents to the United States when eleven years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Van Dyk were born nine children, as follows: Gerrit, Kerst, Albert, Walter, Otto, Jr., Martha, Elizabeth, Anna and Kate, who all married and have children. In his political views Mr. Van Dyk is a Republican. He received forty acres from his father, and also forty acres from his wife's father. He has given his land to his children and for the past year has lived a retired life. When he first came to this county the woods were full of game and he killed forty deer and one bear in his neighborhood.



**A**DAM SHANKS, a prosperous general agriculturist and successful stock-raiser of Muskegon Township, Muskegon County, Mich., was born in Canada near the lake shore in 1839, and was the sixth child of the family of seven sons and daughters born to Adam and Catherine (Christler) Shanks. The parents were natives of Pennsylvania and were reared, educated and married in the Quaker State, and soon after their marriage removed to Canada, where the father, a farmer by occupation, died when our subject was only four years old. The mother, surviving thirty-one years, continued her residence in Canada and there reared all of her children to maturity. Lydia, the eldest-born, is now deceased; Betsey is the wife of John Van Lawe, of Canada; Stephen yet makes his home in Canada; Christopher also resides in Canada; Sarah is the wife of John Butler, of Canada; Adam, named in honor of his father, is our subject; and

Barbara is the wife of George Winger. Adam Shanks, carefully reared by his devoted mother, grew up on the Canadian farm, receiving his education in the neighboring schools of the home district.

Attaining to manly and self-reliant youth, our subject began life for himself, working for wages away from home long before reaching his majority. Crossing over to the American side and locating in Livingston County, Mich., in 1860, Mr. Shanks labored by the month on a farm for three years. Becoming in heart and soul a citizen of the United States, in March, 1865, answering to the call of the Government, he enlisted in Company E, Fifteenth Michigan Infantry, and joined the Army of the Tennessee. It was not long before the close of the war, and Mr. Shanks never had the opportunity of participating in a single battle, as he had only just arrived in the State of North Carolina, on his way to the front, when Gen. Lee surrendered. He was mustered out of service at Little Rock, Ark., and received his final discharge from the army in Detroit, Mich. While in Little Rock, Mr. Shanks was seriously ill and has never entirely recovered from a violent attack which finally resulted in a permanent trouble of the eyes, from the effects of which he is now almost blind. When the war ended, our subject settled in Wexford County, where he homesteaded eighty acres, entering with energy into the cultivation of the wild land.

The health of Mr. Shanks, however not improving, he was obliged to make a change of residence, and in 1874 he sold out and removed to his present property, consisting of sixty-three acres, twenty-five of which are under a fine state of cultivation. The productive farm is further improved with an attractive residence, commodious and substantial barns and other buildings. Since coming to Michigan Mr. Shanks has made his way upward and accumulated a comfortable competence, being numbered among the substantial farmers of his vicinity. He has been twice married, first wedding in 1858 Miss Rhoda Grant, a native of New Brunswick. The parents of Mrs. Shanks were both born in the United States. Our subject and his worthy wife were blessed by the

THE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE  
FIELD EXPERIMENTATION



*Daniel M. Champion*

birth of two children: Christopher J., residing in Livingston County, Mich.; and Charlotte, wife of John Shaw. Mrs. Shanks died in 1863, mourned by her family and many friends. In 1878 Adam Shanks and Mrs. Mary A. (Ward) Bennett, a native of England, were united in marriage, and in their home community enjoy the respect and confidence of a wide acquaintance.

Faternally, our subject is connected with Twin Lake Post No. 312, G. A. R. Politically, he is a Republican and always votes that ticket. During his residence of over a score of years in his present locality, Mr. Shanks has identified himself with local enterprise and improvement and is in every sense of the word a true American citizen.



**D**ANIEL M. CHAMPION. Now in the twilight of life's brief day, surrounded by the luxuries his efforts have secured, and ministered to by loving hands, the subject of this notice resides in Tallmadge Township, Ottawa County, upon the farm which has been his home for almost a half-century. With advancing years, he has retired to some extent from active farming duties, although he still personally superintends the management of his place. He possessed in youth the courage and enthusiasm so indispensable to a frontier life. These qualities gave him unbounded faith in success and carried him safely over troubles and dangers from which he would otherwise have shrunk in terror.

Born in Herkimer County, N. Y., October 23, 1816, our subject is the son of David and Fannie (Whipples) Champion, natives of Connecticut. He was the only child of this marriage and was but two years of age when he was bereaved by his mother's death. For some time afterward he remained with his father, who married for his second wife Miss Sallie Duncan, and who is yet living (1893) at the ripe old age of ninety-five. Daniel

received a very limited education in the schools of Herkimer County, where his father conducted agricultural operations, and also engaged in the clothing business, Daniel assisting him in both until he was twenty-two years old.

At that time the elder Mr. Champion sold out and invested his money in lands at Newville, Herkimer County, whither Daniel accompanied him and remained for two years. During that time he was Captain of the militia and also Captain of Gray's Guards. Leaving Newville, he went to Orleans County, N. Y., where he commenced to work on a farm for his uncle, remaining thus engaged for three years. Coming to Michigan in the spring of 1845, he sojourned in Grand Rapids for one year, after which he located upon land that had been appropriated for salt works, but as they did not prove profitable the land was devoted to Normal School purposes. Afterward the property was offered for sale and purchased by our subject for \$4 per acre. Here he has since resided, being at present the owner of more than one hundred and sixty acres of improved land.

August 12, 1838, Mr. Champion was married to Miss Lydia, the daughter of Ezra and Diana (Potter) Champion, of New York State. To this marriage were born four children. Fannie W. became the wife of Benjamin Girdler, and they reside on the old homestead with Mr. Champion. Ezra D. died while in the service of his country in the hospital at David's Island, N. Y. Daniel married Miss Helen Macumber and lives in Ottawa County, Mich. Mary died in infancy. The wife and mother, who for many years toiled lovingly and unweariedly for the welfare of her dear ones, was called from her earthly home to "a home not made with hands" on the 15th of June, 1889, leaving in the family circle a void that never can be filled.

While not as active in public affairs as in former years, Mr. Champion cherishes a deep interest in the progress of the community, and as he believes that protection is best adapted to the welfare of the United States, he affiliates with the Republicans, having been a member of that political organization ever since its inception. He has filled a number of local positions, including the offices of Township Commissioner and Justice of the Peace.

**G**ERRIT VANDEN BELDT, an able general agriculturist, and for many years Assessor of the school district of Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., owns a fine farm desirably located on section 33, and is numbered among the substantial citizens of this locality. He was born in the province of Gelderland, in the Netherlands, October 31, 1833, and was the son of Klaas and Jennie (Bove) Vanden Beldt, natives of the Netherlands, their forefathers having dwelt within the boundaries of the kingdom from time immemorial. The grandfather, James Vanden Beldt, rented land and was by occupation a farmer. He reared three children, Klaas, the father of our subject, and two daughters, neither of whom ever left their native land. Klaas Vanden Beldt remained with his parents until he attained manhood and received a good common-school education. He ambitiously became master of three trades, being a carpenter, mason and "decker," or straw-roofer. He was likewise a wood-worker, and could turn by hand, and in these various lines of labor accumulated a small capital, which he invested in twenty-acre farms, and finally gathered together sufficient money to enable him to emigrate with his wife and seven sons to America, to him the land of promise.

It was in the month of November, 1846, that, embarking upon a sailing-vessel, the family bade adieu to their native land, and slowly making their way across the broad Atlantic, were on the water forty-seven days. The boat, an American vessel, the "Platobuster," arrived safely at the port of New Orleans, from which city the family proceeded up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, where they remained until April, 1847. They then removed to Ottawa County, Mich., where, with only \$5 left after helping a neighbor, the father bought forty acres at \$2.50 per acre on section 33, Holland Township, and here entered with zeal into the tilling of the soil. While erecting their log house, the family were for two weeks quartered with an Indian in the old Indian village. The new house when finished was about 12x20 feet, one room, and covered with elm bark. The first year they went twelve miles north and planted some potatoes and beans, and later the fa-

ther and two neighbors journeyed by boat on the Kalamazoo River and bought provisions for the Dutch settlement. In the fall Klaas Vanden Beldt began cutting the trees upon his forty acres, and made shingles enough to pay for his land. In the succeeding year, during the fall of 1848, the father died. A sincere Christian man, a member of the Reformed Church, he was also a kind friend and neighbor, a loving husband and father, and his death was mourned by all as a public loss.

The seven sons were in the order of their birth as follows: James, Derk, Gerrit, Frederikus, Gradus, Reinder and Henry. The sixth son died on the ocean voyage. The fifth son died of small-pox the second year after he came to Michigan. The second and fourth sons died after having families of their own. The mother, surviving the death of the father until 1862, again married, the second husband being Walter Niessan. Until this second marriage, Gerrit dutifully remained to aid his mother in the heavy burden of caring for the younger children, but as soon as the step-father came, our subject, then fourteen years of age, went to Allegan and worked on a farm one year. He later worked upon a farm in Cooper three years, and then located in Kalamazoo. For five years he received employment in a warehouse, and for a twelvemonth bought wheat upon the street. He next engaged upon his own account in the manufacture of brick, and, continuing in the business for eight years, was at the last quite successful. In the mean time Mr. Vanden Beldt had married Miss Susanna Marcellia, the daughter of Herbert and Margaret (De Purl) Marcellia.

The union of our subject and his estimable wife was blessed by the birth of twelve children, eleven of whom are yet surviving, one dying young. They are in order of their birth: Nicholas, Margaret, Rika, Jennie, Lizzie, Herbert, Isaac, Fred, Mary, Gertie and Gradus. Jamie is deceased. While in the brick business in Kalamazoo, Mr. Vanden Beldt purchased forty acres where he now lives, and removing to the land began to manufacture brick here upon his farm, and continued so to do for twelve years, but since has given his time and attention strictly to farming duties. Financially prospered, our subject owns sixty-five acres of



finely cultivated land, improved with a handsome residence, good barns and outbuildings. Some fifteen years ago, Mr. Vanden Beldt made a visit to his native land, and being absent three months much enjoyed the trip. His son Nicholas, a graduate of Hope College, having finished a course as chemist at Ann Arbor, is now located in Detroit as a druggist. A member of the Christian Reformed Church, our subject is likewise a Deacon and a teacher in the Sunday-school. Politically a Republican, he has for many years efficiently discharged the duties of Assessor, and is known to all his fellow-townsmen as a man of sterling integrity of character.



**H**ON. CHARLES H. LESLIE, Mayor of North Muskegon, and a prominent merchant of this city, was born in Johnstown, N. Y., August 3, 1810. He is a son of James Leslie, a native of New Hampshire and a private in the War of 1812, who served for three years in the defense of our country. After the close of the conflict, he resumed his farming operations, which had been interrupted by the call to arms. The paternal grandfather of our subject, James Leslie, was born in Scotland, and in his young manhood he emigrated to America. For seven and one-half years he served in the Colonial army during the Revolutionary War, and was wounded at the battle of Lexington.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Eliza Vanancher, and was born and reared in New York, being the daughter of John and Abbie (White) Vanancher, natives respectively of Germany and Paris, France. After their marriage the parents of our subject located in New York, where the father died at the age of seventy-seven. The mother still survives, at the age of seventy-one (1893), and makes her home in Bleecker, N. Y. They had a family of three daughters and five sons, and of the seven children who grew to maturity our subject is the eldest. At the early age

of ten years he began to be self-supporting, and, as may be surmised, his education has been gained principally through self-culture and observation, his opportunities for schooling having been exceedingly limited. For a time he engaged in lumbering, and not only earned his own living, but also aided his parents.

At the commencement of the Civil War, Mr. Leslie enlisted as a member of Company C, Thirty-second New York Infantry, the date of his enlistment being April 17, 1861. He enlisted as a private, later served as Corporal and also Orderly-Sergeant of the company, in which he remained for two years. In October, 1863, he enlisted as a veteran in the Fourth Heavy Artillery at New York, and was promoted to be Corporal and Orderly-Sergeant of Company D, in which capacity he was serving at the close of the war, in 1865. He participated in thirty-two important engagements and was in the siege of Yorktown, the siege of Richmond, and numerous decisive battles. He was three times wounded: first at Gaines' Mill, where the bullet struck his face under the left ear and passed through his tongue; second, in front of the breastworks at Petersburg, where a bullet struck him in the forehead; and third, by a minie-ball at South Side Railroad.

Twice Mr. Leslie suffered imprisonment. He was taken prisoner after receiving his first wound, and was confined in Libby Prison and Belle Isle for two months. He was also taken prisoner while serving in the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery, but escaped and marched fifty rebel soldiers to camp and delivered them to the Fifth Corps, under instructions from Gen. Warren. After participating in many of the most desperate battles of the war, he was honorably discharged at Hart's Island, and was mustered out of the service October 5, 1865. Returning to New York, he resumed his business and again engaged extensively as a lumberman. In 1866, he came to Michigan and opened a meat-market at Lowell. Later he went to the pineries on Flat River, where he engaged in the lumber business during the summer and winter of 1867. From there he proceeded to Grand Haven and thence, in 1867, to Lowell.

In 1868, Mr. Leslie purchased eighty acres in

Lowell Township, Kent County. Later he engaged in the sawmill business with Armstrong, Gould & Co., at Muir, Ionia County, and had charge of a gang of forty sawmill hands until September, 1868, when he returned to Lowell. In the spring of 1869 he went back to Ionia County, and for a few months took charge of the same force. In 1870, he returned to his farm, and during the same year he married Miss Catherine Bartlett, a native of Canada.

The young couple commenced housekeeping on the farm in Lowell Township, Kent County, where Mr. Leslie continued to till the soil until 1877. While residing there he held the offices of Justice of the Peace, Highway Commissioner, Drainage Commissioner, School Director and Overseer of Highways, and occupied all these offices during the same year. He served as Justice of the Peace for four years, and as Highway Commissioner for three years. Disposing of his farm in 1877, he removed to Dinwiddie County, Va., and purchased a farm south of Petersburg, Va. After remaining there ten months, he sent his family to Grand Rapids, Mich., and he went to Kansas, where he entered the employ of the Revolving Scraping Company, of Columbus, Ohio, as their agent for the States of Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado and New Mexico, as well as the Indian Territory. With a horse and wagon he traveled extensively throughout the country for two years.

In 1880, Mr. Leslie returned to Grand Rapids, Mich., and thence proceeded to Indianapolis, Ind., where he engaged with a book firm to canvass for them. He traveled in the western part of Michigan in their interests, but finding the work ungenial, he soon bade good-bye to the business. Next we find him in Chicago, and two weeks later in Muskegon, where he secured employment with the firm of Blodgett & Byrne. Soon afterward he brought his family here. Two months were spent in Muskegon, after which he came to North Muskegon, in the spring of 1881. For four years he was engaged at his trade of carpenter. On the 26th of April, 1885, he was appointed Postmaster, and in connection with his postoffice also engaged in the tobacco business and later ad-

ded a stock of drugs, and then a stock of hardware. He filled the position of Postmaster for five years and three months.

In a number of other positions, Mr. Leslie has served with credit to himself and to the universal satisfaction of the people. He served as Township Clerk, School Inspector for one year, member of the School Board for six years, its Chairman for three years, member of the Common Council for four years, and Vice-President of the Board for two years. When the village was incorporated, in 1891, he was elected Alderman of the First Ward, and served in that capacity for two years. He was then chosen City Treasurer and was the incumbent of the office for one year. In 1893 he was elected to the highest office within the gift of the people—that of Mayor, which he now holds. In addition to the offices above named he was Deputy Sheriff for four years.

Socially, Mr. Leslie is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is identified with Lodge No. 140, and Royal Arch Masons No. 47. He is also associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows No. 69, in which he has served as Past Noble Grand and Grand Master. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees No. 29, and the Grand Army of the Republic No. 280, in which he is Past Commander. He is also Past Commander of the Knights of Labor, No. 2207, at North Muskegon. He and his estimable wife are the parents of three children: Edward C., a resident of Chicago; Bertha, wife of Charles Bon, of Grand Haven; and George. They also have two grandsons, Lewis and George, of whom they are justly proud.



**C**HARLES E. BRIGGS, the energetic and successful District Manager for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, and also the popular and efficient Mayor of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., numbers his friends by the score and has long been identified with the

progressive interests of his locality. Our subject, a native of Niagara County, N. Y., was born near East Wilson, March 27, 1858, and was the son of George A. and Helen M. (Baker) Briggs, highly esteemed residents of the Empire State. The paternal grandfather, Andrew Briggs, a brave soldier of the War of 1812, left to his descendants numerous valuable legacies, among them being a powder-horn earned by him during the troublous days of the early part of the present century. Grandfather Briggs was a prominent dairy farmer, his extensive homestead being located in Black River County, N. Y. He was killed by an accident when George, the father of our subject, born in Booneville in 1826, was a small boy.

The history of the Briggs family in America is intimately associated with the growth and progress of the United States, four brothers having sailed from England to America more than two centuries ago. They landed in Rhode Island, and while one remained in that State, the others scattered to various parts of the Union. One went to Ohio, another to Pennsylvania, and the direct ancestor of our subject settled in the Empire State. To-day numerous branches of the old family are found in every State of our Republic, many of the men and women filling positions of high trust and importance.

The father of our subject was an only son, and, a little lad at the death of his father, went to live with an uncle, Nathan Briggs, a wealthy dairyman of Black River County. While with his uncle, George A. received excellent advantages for schooling, and when old enough learned the carpenter's trade, but finally entered largely into farming and became a leading general agriculturist of his native State. George A. Briggs was a man of broad views and sound judgment, and, liberal in sentiment and kindly by nature, never had an enemy, but rejoiced in a host of friends. Although a strong Democrat and patriotic citizen, he was unwilling, although urged to do so, to accept any political preferment. In all public matters as well as private affairs he was sincere, upright and practical, and was numbered among the substantial men, ever ready to respond to the demands of duty. This good man and true Ameri-

can citizen passed away mourned by all who knew him July 10, 1889, and in Niagara County, where the greater part of his life was passed, his death was accounted a public loss.

Helen M. Baker, the mother of our subject, was born in Niagara County, N. Y., in 1837, and was the daughter of John Baker, a prosperous contractor and builder of that county. While yet comparatively a young man, Mr. Baker was killed by the kick of an ox. Mrs. Briggs had two own brothers and one sister, also a half-brother, her mother having married twice. An uncle of our subject, Charles S. Baker, enlisted as a private in the Civil War, serving with courage four years, a twelvemonth of which time was spent in Libby Prison. Discharged from the army with the commission of a First Lieutenant, he survived until 1880, then dying in New York State. John Baker is a well-known farmer of Niagara County, N. Y. Elizabeth E. Baker married Daniel E. Chaddock, and with her husband came to Michigan, where she passed away in 1868. The half-brother, Frank M., who also bore the name of Baker, is a successful contractor and bridge-builder living at Rosedale, Kan. The mother of Mr. Briggs is now residing in Lima, N. Y., where she went to educate the younger children. There were six in the family, Charles E. being the eldest son. Florence A., the eldest of the sisters, was educated at Lockport (N. Y.) Academy, and was for many years a superior teacher; she now resides with her mother. John E., also educated at Lockport Academy, is a civil engineer at Cameron, Mo.; Frank died when a child; Victoria G., a graduate of the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, is a successful teacher in the public schools of Whitehall, where she has been engaged for the past two years; Helen C., also educated at the Wesleyan Seminary, married Bert C. Stockwell, a prominent attorney of Lockport, N. Y., and the son of a noted local politician of the Empire State.

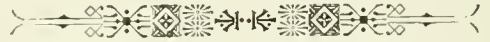
Our subject passed the days of early boyhood in East Wilson, and had completed his studies in Lockport Academy at the age of nineteen. Immediately after he acquired in Lockport a knowledge of telegraphy. In 1878, an ambitious young man of twenty, Mr. Briggs journeyed to Michigan

and spent one year in the employ of the West Michigan Railroad Company as operator at Hartford. He next went to Sioux City, Iowa, as a civil engineer in the service of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and after the first six months had charge of a division of the road then under construction. For five continuous years our subject was in charge of various divisions of that system of railroad, and then bettered himself by accepting a position in Chicago as Assistant Division Engineer of the Nickel Plate Railroad. At the close of a twelvemonth he became the principal Assistant Engineer on the Hannibal & St. Joseph, Kansas City & St. Joseph, Council Bluffs & St. Joseph and Des Moines Railroads.

At the end of three years, our subject, located in Cincinnati, Ohio, received the position of Principal Assistant Civil Engineer of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad, but later, on account of his wife's failing health, resigned that position and in 1888 settled in Michigan, his headquarters being Whitehall, where he accepted the management of western Michigan for the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company, and in all his business enterprises has made a success, building up a large and rapidly increasing patronage for the well-known and reliable company which he so ably represents.

A life-long Democrat, Mr. Briggs since his residence in Whitehall has taken an active part in local politics, and was the first Democrat ever elected to the honored position of President of the Village Council. Fraternally, our subject is a valued member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, connected with the Blue Lodge and chapter. Upon December 30, 1883, Charles E. Briggs and Miss Octavia L. Andrews, of Hartford, Mich., were united in marriage. Mrs. Briggs is a daughter of Samuel Andrews, a prominent lumberman of Hartford. An uncle, Dr. Josiah Andrews, of Paw Paw, was widely known as one of the most eminent surgeons of the State of Michigan. A brother of Mrs. Briggs, Capt. John H. Andrews, a brave soldier of the late Civil War, was killed at the battle of Dallas, Ga., on the march with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea. Another brother, Charles Andrews, became a prosperous farmer. Nancy T. Andrews, the only sister of

Mrs. Briggs, is the wife of W. A. Phelps, of Grand Rapids, a wealthy lumberman and also the largest tan bark dealer in Michigan. The pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Briggs has been blessed by the birth of three children. Samuel G., a bright little lad, is now eight years of age; Ethel L. died when one year old; Ralph E. is four years of age. The beautiful family residence, one of the finest in Whitehall, is the abode of hospitality, and the scene of many social gatherings, our subject and his estimable wife being held in high esteem by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



**JOHN MASTERSON.** Although a resident of Ottawa County for less than a decade of years, Mr. Masterson has a wide circle of acquaintances and business associates, whose regard he has won by his genial courtesy, upright life and the uniform reliability of his transactions. He engages in agricultural pursuits upon his pleasantly situated and highly cultivated farm in Tallmadge Township, consisting of one hundred acres of arable land. As a farmer he is energetic, industrious and efficient, and uses good judgment in the cultivation of his land.

A native of Illinois, our subject was born in Lake County August 7, 1841. His father, Thomas Masterson, was born in Ireland in 1810, and in 1828 came to America, settling in Illinois and following farming operations in Shields Township, Lake County, until his demise. On first coming to America, however, he did not engage in agricultural pursuits, but conducted an extensive business in the digging of ditches, etc. It was he who contracted to clean the brush from the Chicago River, an arduous undertaking, as may well be surmised. His wife, whose maiden name was Bridget Malloy, was, like himself, of Irish birth and parentage.

The eldest child in his father's family, the subject of this biographical sketch was the recipient of such educational opportunities as were afforded

by the public schools of Lake County, Ill. He worked at home on the farm until he reached the age of seventeen, when he went to Lake Forest and there secured employment, remaining until 1881. At that time he came to Michigan and purchased the tract of land in Tallmadge Township, Ottawa County, which has ever since been his home. He is a man of prominence in this community and an active worker in the Democratic party. In religious matters, he is a Roman Catholic.

The lady who in June, 1866, became the wife of our subject was formerly Miss Mary Delaney, and at the time of her marriage was living in Ottawa County. To this union have been born six children, namely: Thomas and Annie (twins), Mary, John, Daniel and Lawrence, all of whom reside with their parents with the exception of the eldest son, who is a conductor on the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad. The family, socially, is one of the best-known and most influential in the county, and both Mr. and Mrs. Masterson have the regard of their many friends.



**W**B. CONLEY, a thoroughly practical and enterprising druggist, located at Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., is an expert pharmacist and a man of excellent business ability. A native of this State, Mr. Conley was born in Ionia, Ionia County, November 27, 1855, and was the eldest of the family of six children, three sons and three daughters, who blessed the home of his parents, Robert and Susan (Dillon) Conley. The father and mother, both natives of Ireland, were only children when with their families they crossed the broad Atlantic to America. They settled upon Canadian soil, and, marrying in the early part of 1854, made their permanent home in Ionia County, Mich., where the father, a carpenter by trade, found immediate employment. Combining with the occupation of a builder the tilling of the soil, Robert Conley engaged also in general agriculture, and, yet surviv-

ing, lives a quiet and retired life in Whitehall, respected by all who know him. His second son, John R., married Miss Mary Baker, of Montague, and has one child. He and his wife and family are now residing in Kansas City, where he is prosperously engaged in the drug business. George married a lady of Painesville, Ohio, and is a resident of that city. Marie Antoinette is the wife of E. H. Harwood, a retired business man of Whitehall; Abby is living with her parents in Whitehall; and Maggie died when only eight years of age.

Until eighteen years old our subject passed the most of his time upon his father's farm. He attended the school of his home neighborhood and received a common-school education, which he has since supplemented by observation and reading. For the fourteen succeeding years Mr. Conley worked in the lumber camps mainly, seven years of the time being foreman on the river. When about thirty-one or thirty-two years old, he engaged in business at Whitehall as a builder and contractor, also extending his trade to Muskegon, where he erected numerous houses. In the fall of 1888, having amassed a snug capital, our subject went into his present business and carries one of the most complete lines of drugs and sundries handled by any similar store in this locality. Since 1888 our subject has given his entire time to the details of the drug business, and his fine large store has earned the reputation of being one of the best-managed in Muskegon County.

A first-class business man in every respect, Mr. Conley also possesses musical talent of a high order and is leader of the Whitehall band, which he assisted in organizing. July 3, 1881, W. B. Conley and Miss Grace Phelps, of Whitehall, were united in marriage, receiving the best wishes and hearty congratulations of a host of friends. Mrs. Conley is the step-daughter of Col. T. S. Watson, and is widely known and highly esteemed by a large circle of acquaintances. Two bright little daughters, Bessie, ten years old in April, 1893, and Lulu, aged eight, July 13, 1893, are the pride of their beautiful home. Politically, Mr. Conley is a Democrat, but has never aspired to office. Fraternally, he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has passed the chairs of the order,

and has been a representative to the Grand Lodge. Beginning life without capital or influence, our subject has won his upward way to a position of useful influence and is numbered among the substantial citizens of Muskegon County.



**E**DWARD WATSON. The philosophy of success in life is an interesting study, and affords a lesson from which many can profit. In choosing a pursuit in life, taste, mental gifts, opportunity and disposition to labor should be considered, as any young man who has a disposition to become a respectable and useful citizen desires to succeed in his work. On the 3d of July, 1857, a boy was born in Medina County, Ohio, who grew up to sturdy manhood, ambitious to excel and possessing much energy and determination, attributes which are essential to success in any calling. This boy was Edward Watson, his parents being Edward G. and Rebecca (Register) Watson. (See sketch of Thomas W. Watson).

Edward Watson received a good practical education in the common schools of Ohio, and for some time attended a select school under one of the graduates of Oberlin College. When sixteen years of age he branched out as a farm hand, having learned the details of farm life of his worthy father, and continued this for seven months, receiving as compensation \$14 per month. During that time he lost but one day from the field. In the year 1873 he decided to settle in Michigan, and for six months after doing so he worked by the month, saving his wages and economizing in order to become the owner of land in the future. He first purchased twenty acres of land, covered with a heavy growth of timber, and this, after slightly improving, he sold to his father.

Four years after this young Watson worked in a lumber-mill, and in 1878 purchased forty acres adjoining his present property. Since that time he has added to the original tract seventy-two

acres, making one hundred and twelve acres, and he has one hundred acres under cultivation. He has a fine residence, commodious and substantial out-buildings, barns, etc., and his place shows the care and energy of its thrifty owner. In connection with carrying on his extensive farming interests, Mr. Watson is also engaged in stock-raising, breeding a high grade of Durham cattle and Norman and Suffolk horses, the latter a new breed of horses brought over from England. Everything about his fine place shows that he is one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of the county, and as a citizen and neighbor no man is more highly esteemed.

On the 23d of October, 1878, he was married to Miss Lilla M. Comstock, a native of Grand Haven, and daughter of William and Emily (Hildreth) Comstock, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Vermont. She was the youngest of four children, as follows: Carrie, now Mrs. Henry Jones, of Grand Rapids; Alice, of this county; and Wallace, also of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Comstock reside at Allendale, this county, where they have a pleasant home. Three children have been the fruits of our subject's union: Ralph, Fred and Arthur. At present Mr. Watson is an active member of the township Grange. He has never filled any political position, although he has held a number of minor offices in his township, for all his time is devoted to the management of his extensive farm and stock industry. In politics, he affiliates with the Democratic party.



**H**ENRY VINCENT, an extensive and thoroughly practical horticulturist and manufacturer of wine, residing upon a highly productive farm near Grand Haven, Ottawa County, is a native of the Netherlands, and was born in Wyk-bei-Duurstede on the 17th of January, 1850. The father, John Vincent, was born in Germany, but spent most of his life in the Netherlands and never came to America. He was a fine

musician and a man of learning and accomplishments. Our subject was the second of the eleven children who clustered in the home, of whom nine yet survive. The living are in the order of their birth: Anton, Henry, Mary, Louise, Jennette, Peter, Cato, Pauline and Tonia. At the age of eighteen years, Henry, an ambitious and enterprising youth, emigrated to America, and at once located in Zeeland, Mich. Our subject, liberally educated in the schools of the Fatherland, and self-reliant, was well fitted to make his way in life. After remaining about six months in Zeeland, Mr. Vincent removed to Holland, Mich., and resided there four and a-half years, following his trade of printer. At the expiration of this time, animated by a strong desire to revisit his native land, he returned, in 1873, to the Netherlands.

Our subject passed the next two years and a-half in travel, finally spending a twelvemonth in London, England, and from that city departing for Grand Rapids, Mich., where he resided the succeeding five years, devoting his attention to printing. From Grand Rapids, Mr. Vincent removed to his present home in Ottawa County, Mich., having inherited from the estate of Dr. John Mastenbroek the farm on which he now resides. Upon the seventy acres are raised all kinds of small fruits, as well as apples, peaches, pears and grapes. The wine made by Mr. Vincent is a fine product and has an extended sale, its excellent flavor and its purity making it especially desirable for medical as well as table uses. In 1880, Henry Vincent and Miss Jennette Mastenbroek were united in marriage. The accomplished wife of our subject, born in Michigan in 1860, was the daughter of Dr. John Mastenbroek, a native of the Netherlands but a long-time resident of Muskegon, Mich. Mrs. Vincent is the eldest of the three daughters who brightened the home of her parents.

Six children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, but three only now survive: John, Willie and Mary. Mrs. Vincent is a valued member of the Congregational Church at Grand Haven, and, a lady of high character and fine attainments, occupies a position of useful influence, and socially commands the sincere esteem of a

large circle of friends. Ever since his permanent residence in his present locality, our subject has been prominently associated with the advancement of the best interests of his neighborhood and vicinity. Politically an Independent, he votes, irrespective of party, for the best man, and at the last Presidential election cast his vote for Cleveland. He is now and has been for two years School Director, and, an ardent friend to educational progress, has materially assisted in the upward growth of educational facilities. Elected Justice of the Peace, Mr. Vincent did not qualify for the office, and has, in fact, no aspirations for public position or political honors, but, a true American citizen, takes a deep interest in both local and national affairs, and is ever ready to do his full share in all matters of public welfare.



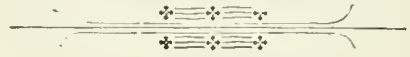
**D**IRK MIEDEMA, an energetic general agriculturist and a brave veteran of the late Civil War, is a native of the Netherlands, and was born in Vriesland in the year 1823. His parents, John and Jane (Wiersma) Miedema, born, reared and educated in the Netherlands, after their marriage kept an hotel in a village of their native land, in which employment the father continued until his death, at thirty-eight years of age. The father was a son of Henry and Jante (Koopman) Miedema. The paternal grandfather, beginning life as a poor man, through superior business ability and keen intelligence won his upward way to prosperity and wealth. He was a manufacturer of different varieties of extracts, and lived in a flourishing village, owning a farm of sixty acres adjacent to the place. At his death he left to his family a fortune of \$10,000. The father received a good education and began life for himself at the age of twenty-two, when he married. At his death he left to the care of his widow three children: Henry, deceased; Dirk, our subject; and Baarnd, yet living in the Netherlands. John Miedema was a devout

member of the Reformed Church and a sincere Christian man. Our subject was about twelve years of age at the time of the demise of his father, and dutifully worked for his mother in the hotel until he reached manhood.

Having arrived at his majority, Mr. Miedema hired out eight years to farmers, his mother meantime having married Dirk Terpstra. While working out by the month our subject was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Riemasma, daughter of Gerrit and Anna Riemasma. The one child of the union born in the Old Country is Jane, married to Rinke De Vries. After emigrating to America in 1852, six children were born, four of whom died young. The two surviving are: Anna, wife of Jacob Dagger; and Magie, wife of John Ter Beek. Our subject received some money from his grandfather's estate and with his bequest paid for the passage of himself and family across the sea to the land of promise, America. When Mr. Miedema, with his wife and child, reached Kalamazoo his capital consisted of \$6 in money, supplemented by a large stock of hope and self-reliance. Very soon receiving employment, he worked by the day for one year, and then came to Holland, Ottawa County, where he has since continued to reside. Through hard work and prudent effort our subject was in a comparatively brief time enabled to purchase thirty acres of ground where he now lives, and to whose extent he has thriftily added until he possesses seventy valuable acres, once heavily timbered but brought by Mr. Miedema up to a highly profitable state of cultivation and improved with excellent buildings.

In 1861 our subject enlisted in Company D, Second Michigan Cavalry, and was in the Army of the Cumberland. Engaging in many decisive battles of the long campaign, Mr. Miedema fought with courage at Shiloh, Perryville, Boonville, Corinth, Franklin, Murfreesboro and Brandwood. During the latter battle our subject was severely wounded in the head, on the left side, by a minie-ball. Falling from his horse his foot caught in the stirrup and he was dragged some twenty rods. After remaining at the camp hospital about two months, he went to the hospital in Nashville a few days and was later taken to the convales-

cent camp, where he received his discharge in July, 1863. Mr. Miedema is an honored member of A. C. Van Raalte Post No. 262, G. A. R. He is in religious affiliation a member of the Seceder Church of Holland. Interested in all matters of mutual welfare and ever ready to assist in the public work of his home locality, our subject is highly respected and possesses the regard of many friends.



**J**AMES H. WHEELER. To the memory of our loved dead we erect costly statues and lofty monuments; we chisel beautiful epitaphs upon their marble tombs; we sing in verse of their virtues, or in stately prose narrate their valorous deeds. But far more enduring than chiseled monument or gently-flowing rhyme, is the memory of a lofty, noble life, spent in doing good to others. Such was the life of James H. Wheeler, who, dying, left to his children the heritage of an untarnished name and a spotless life. Now "after life's fitful fever, he sleeps well." Though he reached the age of more than threescore and ten years, yet in his demise those who survive him are reminded that

"The battle of our life is brief;

The alarm, the struggle, the relief.—

Then sleep we side by side."

Born in New York State, July 27, 1820, our subject was the son of Moses and Lucy Wheeler, both of whom died when James was small. He had the advantages of the schools of his section of New York, and worked for a time on a farm belonging to Mr. Little, the gentleman with whom he lived after the death of his parents. At the age of twenty-two, he removed from New York to Michigan and taught three terms of school in the city of Jackson. Then, returning to New York, he sojourned in that State for a year, after which he came to Ottawa County, Mich. Purchasing property here, he at once commenced the work of clearing the land and cultivating the soil. As the years



passed by, he gained a large measure of success, and was recognized as one of the most progressive agriculturists of Tallmadge Township. At the time of his death, March 12, 1891, he had more than one hundred and sixty acres of choice land under cultivation.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Wheeler in October, 1845, and who still survives to mourn his loss, bore the maiden name of Elizabeth L. McKee. Her parents, James and Lucinda (Decker) McKee, were natives of New York State, who removed to Michigan when Elizabeth was a girl of eight, and settled in Jackson, where Mr. McKee is still living (1893) at the advanced age of ninety years. Mrs. McKee died a few years ago, aged eighty-three. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler were the parents of three children, two of whom are living. Mortimer L. married Miss Maggie Con, and resides in Michigan; Aurella L. became the wife of James Cary and lives with her mother.

While Mr. Wheeler never became prominent in politics, he was firm in his allegiance to the Republican party, the principles of which he supported from the time of its organization until the date of his death. During the late war his sympathies were on the side of the Union, and he enlisted in the army in 1863, serving valiantly until the close of the conflict, when he was honorably discharged. He was Justice of the Peace for a number of years, and also occupied other positions of prominence.



**J**OHAN LAUBACH, a progressive citizen of Ravenna and the owner of valuable property in Muskegon County, was born in Ohio in October, 1851, and is of Pennsylvania-German descent. His paternal grandfather, George L. Laubach, was a resident of the Keystone State. He died in 1882, at the age of ninety-seven, in Belmont, Mich. The father of our subject, Benjamin L., was born in Pennsylvania in 1825 and remained with his parents until he was nineteen, when he came West as far as Ohio. Prior to

leaving the Keystone State, he had gained a practical education in the common schools, and after locating in Ohio he taught three terms of school during winter seasons, spending his summers on his father's farm.

At the age of twenty-one, Benjamin L. Laubach married Miss Mary, daughter of John and Sarah Sherriek. This estimable lady died when her son, our subject, was only nine days old, and the father afterward married Miss Elizabeth Colman, their union taking place in 1852. Subsequently he removed to Michigan and settled in Wright Township, Ottawa County, where he commenced the arduous task of clearing and cultivating a farm. Seven years after coming to Michigan he was bereaved by the death of his wife, and two years after her demise he was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Brown, who died three years afterward. In 1870 he married Mrs. Mary Gee, who is still living. The father makes his home in Plainfield Township, Kent County, Mich., where he located two years ago upon selling his valuable farm of four hundred acres. He is now (1893) sixty-seven years old and as active as many men twenty years his junior. A staunch Republican in politics, he served for eleven years as Supervisor in Ottawa County, and also represented his district in the Legislature for two terms.

Of Benjamin L. Laubach's first marriage two children were born, the elder being George, who was graduated from Albion College, at Albion, Mich., and is now teaching music in Coopersville and the surrounding country. The younger son, the subject of this sketch, obtained his education in the public schools of Ottawa County, where he resided until he was twenty-five. From there he removed to Ravenna, Muskegon County, and, purchasing land, engaged in farming until 1892, when he rented his property and removed to the village of Ravenna. In his social relations he is identified with Berlin Lodge No. 248, A. F. & A. M.; Ravenna Lodge, No. 355, I. O. O. F.; Ravenna Grange, and Rebekah Lodge, I. O. O. F., his wife being also a member of the last-named organization.

June 29, 1873, Mr. Laubach married Ella, daughter of George and Eliza (Streeter) Hodges,

and they became the parents of one daughter, May, who married George Patterson and resides in Conklin, Mich. In December, 1888, Mrs. Ella Laubach departed this life, and in August, 1890, our subject was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (Akerman) Hunter. One daughter, Eva Ella, has blessed this union. Mrs. Laubach is identified with the Presbyterian Church and is a lady whose position in social circles is one of prominence. Politically, Mr. Laubach has always been a Republican. For several years he served as Justice of the Peace, for two terms has officiated as Township Treasurer and is the present Supervisor of Ravenna Township.



**J**OHAN C. ROBERT. Ohio has given to Michigan many estimable citizens, but she has contributed none more universally respected and esteemed than the pioneer whose name heads this sketch. It is always a pleasure to deal with the history of one who is a member of one of those grand old families who have for generations been distinguished for patriotism, the genuine spirit of Christianity and the strong characteristics that have made them men of mark. John C. Robert is a product of Ohio, born in Portage County December 29, 1836, and the tenth of twelve children born to the union of James and Annie (Croy) Robert, of English and Danish extraction, respectively.

James Robert was born in New Jersey, where his ancestors settled in 1649. They were among the oldest English families in that State, and all the members of this family sided with the Colonists, and fought bravely for independence. James Robert moved to Ohio with his mother and stepfather when a boy, and settled in the Western Reserve, which has contributed so much of population and intelligence to other States. There he finished his growth, married and resided until after the birth of our subject, when he and his family moved to Tuscarawas County, but only resided there for a

few years. From there they moved to what is now Fulton County, Ohio, and in 1844 came to Michigan, which was then a wilderness. At that time the city of Coldwater boasted of three stores and a hotel. Mr. Robert purchased a small amount of land from the Government, and while clearing up this farm was accidentally killed by a falling tree, in 1848. In 1858 his widow married Allen Hebner, and died in 1860.

The children born to the above-mentioned couple were as follows: Phoebe (deceased), who was the wife of C. Harrison; Amelia (deceased), who was the wife of Peter Gee; Hiram (deceased); Minerva (deceased), who was the wife of Nathan Jones; Annie, wife of Leander Whitten; Sybil, wife of Andrew S. Hopkins; James; Rachel, wife of Levi Waldron; Mahala, wife of Martin Crego; John C.; Catherine, wife of Derrick Sutlin; and Frank, who died in the army. The original of this sketch, John C. Robert, was educated in the common schools of Michigan, and remained with his mother and sisters until 1859, when he decided to locate in Iowa. For eight years he was a resident of that State, engaged in farming and freighting across the plains, and during that time he had many exciting adventures with the Indians, principally Sioux and Cheyennes. It was nothing very uncommon for him to find men scalped and with stakes driven through their bodies.

In 1861 Mr. Robert left the trail and engaged in tilling the soil in Monroe County, Iowa, continuing the same until 1864, when he moved to Lucas County. There he remained until 1866, when he went on the railroad which is now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy as foreman for J. E. Longford & Co., following this until May, 1868, when he went to Kansas City, Mo. While in the latter place he engaged in grading and contracting, which he continued until 1870, and then went to Vernon County, Mo., where he farmed for one year. In 1872 he went to Crawford County, Kan., and was engaged in coal-mining at that place for three years. From there he came to Ottawa County, Mich., resumed his old occupation of farming, and in 1876 settled on his present property. That section was a perfect wilderness—no roads, no schools, no improvements of any kind—

and here Mr. Robart settled on eighty acres. He now has fifty-five acres under cultivation, and in connection with tilling the soil is engaged in raising a fine grade of horses.

Miss Susie Thrall, who became his wife on the 1st of February, 1863, was a native of Delaware County, Ohio, and the daughter of George and Annie (Baker) Thrall, of Russell, Iowa. Three children were given to Mr. and Mrs. Robart: Charles C., deceased; Mary E., wife of Arthur Drinkwater, of Holland, Mich.; and Carl J. In 1880 Mr. Robart was elected Highway Commissioner, and was also Census Enumerator, School Inspector in 1883, and Justice of the Peace in 1882. The last-named office he has held for ten years. In 1891 and 1892 he was re-elected Highway Commissioner, and for sixteen years has been School Director in his district. In his political principles, he is an ardent Republican, and takes a deep interest in the success of his party, and served for six years on the Republican County Committee.



**A**P. HORTON, Supervisor of Laketon Township, and one of the most extensive farmers of Muskegon County, was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., February 28, 1833. His father, who was of English descent, was born in Connecticut and died when our subject was only five days old. His mother bore the maiden name of Clara Van Dusen and was a native of New York, being the daughter of Conrad Van Dusen, who traced his lineage to Holland. The youngest of three children, our subject was reared by his grandfather Van Dusen, and at the age of fourteen began to be self-supporting. One year later he commenced to work at the trade of a carpenter.

At the age of seventeen, in 1850, our subject went to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and after landing in San Francisco he proceeded

to the mining regions, where he engaged in mining for one year. He remained in the Golden State for ten years, meantime engaging principally in the draying business, but during the last three years of his sojourn in the State he was a pilot on a steamboat on the Sacramento River. In 1860 he returned to New York and spent a short time in Palmyra, whence in the spring of 1861 he came to Michigan and located in Burr Oak, St. Joseph County. For two years he worked at his trade in that city.

Coming to Muskegon County in June, 1863, Mr. Horton homesteaded the land where he now resides. The place was then wholly unimproved, and he carried on lumbering for many years. He erected a small log house for his family, and in that primitive home they resided for twenty-one years. In 1881 he built the handsome two-story house now adorning the place at a cost of more than \$4,000. He is the owner of two hundred and fifty acres in the home farm and also eighty acres on section 1, Laketon Township, sixty acres of which have been placed under excellent cultivation.

May 9, 1861, occurred the marriage of Mr. Horton to Miss Hanna Van Dusen, who was born in Wayne County, N. Y., in 1836. Her father, Hiram Van Dusen, and her mother, whose maiden name was Mariah Crandall, were both natives of the empire State. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Horton has been blessed by the birth of four children, namely: Elma J., wife of Frank Wixson, of Laketon Township; Charles A., Hiram O. and Clarissa F., who reside with their parents. With one exception these children were born on the homestead now occupied by the family.

In politics a Republican, Mr. Horton has always given his support to the principles of his chosen party. In 1869 he was chosen Supervisor of Laketon Township, and has held that position more than half the time since the organization of the township, being the present incumbent of the office. He has also served as Highway Commissioner, Justice of the Peace, Assessor, Treasurer, and in other local positions of trust. For many years he was extensively engaged in the lumber business, spending the most of his time in the woods and hand-

ling hundreds of thousands of dollars belonging to Chicago parties. He is one of the most successful and best-informed lumbermen of the county, but while his interests are large and his business associations extensive, he has ever been honorable and upright in his transactions, and is justly proud of the fact that he has never wronged a man.



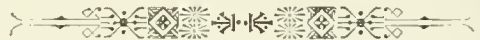
**W**ILLIAM WHIPPLE, JR. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the brave defenders of the Old Flag, who endured the hardships incident to long and fatiguing marches, dreary days in camp and perilous hours near the foe. Mr. Whipple is one of the men to whose bravery, undaunted courage and energy we owe the preservation of our nation, the "land of the free." He is as progressive in civil life as he was brave during his military career, and both as soldier and farmer has discharged the duties devolving upon him with a cheerful and unwavering fidelity.

A native of New York, our subject was born in Ontario County September 19, 1839. His father, Stephen H. Whipple, was born in Erie, Pa., and at the age of eleven years removed from there to New York, locating in Ontario County, where he resided until he was forty. He then came to Michigan and settled in Ottawa County, near Hudsonville, where he still resides. He married Miss Mary Ann Smith, whose parents removed from New Jersey to Michigan, dying in this State. Our subject, the eldest of six children, received his education in the district schools of the Empire State, and worked on a farm until he was twenty-one.

Accompanying his parents to Michigan at the age of sixteen, our subject assisted in clearing and improving his father's farm. Upon attaining his majority he commenced to work as a laborer in the employ of others. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a member of Company D, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, and was mustered into the

service on the 3d of September following. With his regiment he participated in a number of desperate encounters with the rebels, including the battles of Perryville, Ky., and Stone River, Tenn. At the battle last named he was severely wounded, and was confined in a hospital for fourteen months, at the expiration of which time he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. On the 16th of August, 1861, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant, and was serving in that capacity at the time of his discharge, June 30, 1866.

Upon returning home, Lieut. Whipple resumed farming operations upon the farm where he has since resided, and where he engages in raising the various cereals to which this country is especially adapted. Prior to entering the army he was married, February 2, 1862, to Miss Maria P., daughter of Albert C. and Sarah (Paseo) White, natives of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Whipple are the parents of one son, Fred G., who has been a student in the Western Michigan College and the Columbian College at Grand Rapids. Socially, our subject is a member of Grand Rapids Lodge No. 34, F. & A. M., and Hudsonville Lodge, I. O. O. F., in which he has held all the chairs. Politically, he has always been a Republican, and places an abiding faith in that party. He has served in a number of local offices, including the positions of Township Clerk and Drain Commissioner.



**J**ACKSON J. BAKER, who owns and operates a good farm of sixty acres on section 29, Dalton Township, and is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of Muskegon County, is a native of the Pine Tree State. He was born in Hancock County, July 10, 1845, and is a son of William and Hannah (Van Horn) Baker. Little is known concerning the early history of the family, save that it was founded in New England at an early day. William Baker was born in Maine, and reared to manhood upon his father's farm, his parents spending their entire

lives in that State. At the age of twenty-two he left home to make his own way in the world. Wishing to try his fortune in the West, he emigrated to Ohio, and secured a small tract of land from the Government. During his residence in the Buckeye State he was married, and ten children were born of the union, namely: Sanford, Sarah, Samuel, William, Jackson, Emery and Amanda. Selling his farm in Ohio, Mr. Baker emigrated to Michigan thirty-five years ago and located in Clinton County. There he purchased three hundred acres of unimproved land, and to its development and cultivation devoted his energies throughout the remainder of his life. Mrs. Baker died when our subject was quite young, and he was afterwards again married, having two children by the second union, Charles and John. In politics, William Baker was a Democrat, and for twelve years he acceptably and creditably filled the office of Justice of the Peace. Pleasant and genial in manner, he was well liked by every one and had no enemies. He held membership with the Baptist Church, as did the mother of our subject.

No event of special importance occurred during the childhood and youth of the gentleman whose name heads this record. On attaining his majority, he began life for himself upon a forty-acre farm left him by his father. About 1871, he sold that property and came to Muskegon County, Mich., locating upon the farm where he now resides. He purchased sixty acres, a wild and heavily timbered tract, but his labors have transformed it into fields of rich fertility. For fourteen years he has been successfully engaged in the lumber business.

While in Clinton County, Mich., Mr. Baker was united in marriage with Miss Sylvia J. Stokes, and by their union has been born a family of four children. Frank, the eldest, married Anna Burton, and resides at No. 1218 Noble Avenue, Chicago. He completed the High School course at Whitehall and for several years has been on the stage, being now connected with the theatrical profession. William, who was engaged in teaching, is now attending college in Big Rapids, Mich. Maude is a student in the High School of Muskegon; and Winnefred

completes the family. The Baker household is the abode of hospitality, and its doors are ever open for the reception of the many friends who delight there to gather.

Socially, Mr. Baker is connected with the Knights of Honor of Whitehall. He has been called upon to serve in various local offices, was Township Commissioner for years, Treasurer for two years, and Supervisor for two years. The duties of these positions he has discharged with a promptness and fidelity that have won him the commendation of all concerned. A progressive and public-spirited citizen, the best interests of the community ever find in him a friend.



**W**ELLS PARISH, a young and energetic agriculturist and prosperous mill-owner of Allendale Township, Ottawa County, Mich., is a native of the State, and was born in Polkton Township August 1, 1851. He is the son of Enos and Valeria (Wait) Parish, prominent citizens and pioneer settlers of the Wolverine State, and was educated among the scenes of his childhood in Polkton Township, and, trained to habits of self-reliant industry, attained to manhood well fitted to make his own way in life. Thoroughly grounded in agricultural duties, he began life for himself as a farmer, and although he remained with his father until twenty-five years old he received upon his twenty-first birthday forty acres of land, to which he added sixty acres, all at first entirely wild land, but since brought up to a high state of cultivation and improved with attractive and substantial buildings.

When twenty-six years old, Mr. Parish was united in marriage with Miss Hattie Stevens, a native of New York and daughter of Ransom and Maria (Smead) Stevens, who, emigrating from the Empire State to the farther West, located in Michigan shortly after the final close of hostilities of the late Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens were the parents of seven children, six of whom sur-

vived to adult age. Emily became the wife of J. D. Pierson, of Sparta, Kent County, Mich.; Edward was killed while logging in Bass River, Mich.; Eliza is the wife of Henry Pierson, of this township; Milo makes his home in Allendale Township; Hattie is the wife of our subject; and Harrison lives in the township.

When Mr. and Mrs. Parish were first married they gave their undivided efforts to the improvement of their homestead, whose fertile soil, soon yielding them an abundant harvest, amply remunerated the patient toilers for all the care and labor expended in seed-time and harvest. The handsome two-story residence, the excellent barns, and the general air of thrift and prosperity plainly reveal the success of the owners of the valuable farm. Mr. Parish also owns ten acres in Allendale Centre, where the family now reside, and where he is engaged in the sawmill business, also profitably running a feedmill. In 1889 our subject entered into milling, first conducting a feedmill and then sawing short stuff. In April, 1892, in company with Frank A. Parker, of Allendale Township, Mr. Parish built his present sawmill, which has a capacity of twelve thousand feet daily. The product of the mill is mostly disposed of in Grand Rapids, although the firm enjoys the custom of a large county trade. Since attaining his majority, our subject has placed in lands and milling machinery from \$5,000 to \$6,000, which he has accumulated by business ability and enterprise, being ably aided and encouraged by his intelligent life companion, who has proven herself a helpmate indeed.

During the passing years eight children have, with their intelligence brightened the home of our subject and his estimable wife. Essie R. is the eldest-born; then follow in order of birth Artie L., Nellie M., Ada B. (deceased), Emily J., Charles R., Avis E. and Newton W. Mrs. Parish occupies a high social position, and is a valued member of the Ladies' Aid Society of Allendale Township. Our subject is a stockholder, a Director and the first President of the Allendale Creamery Company, established in the spring of 1893, and takes an active interest in the promotion of all vital interests of the township and county. Politi-

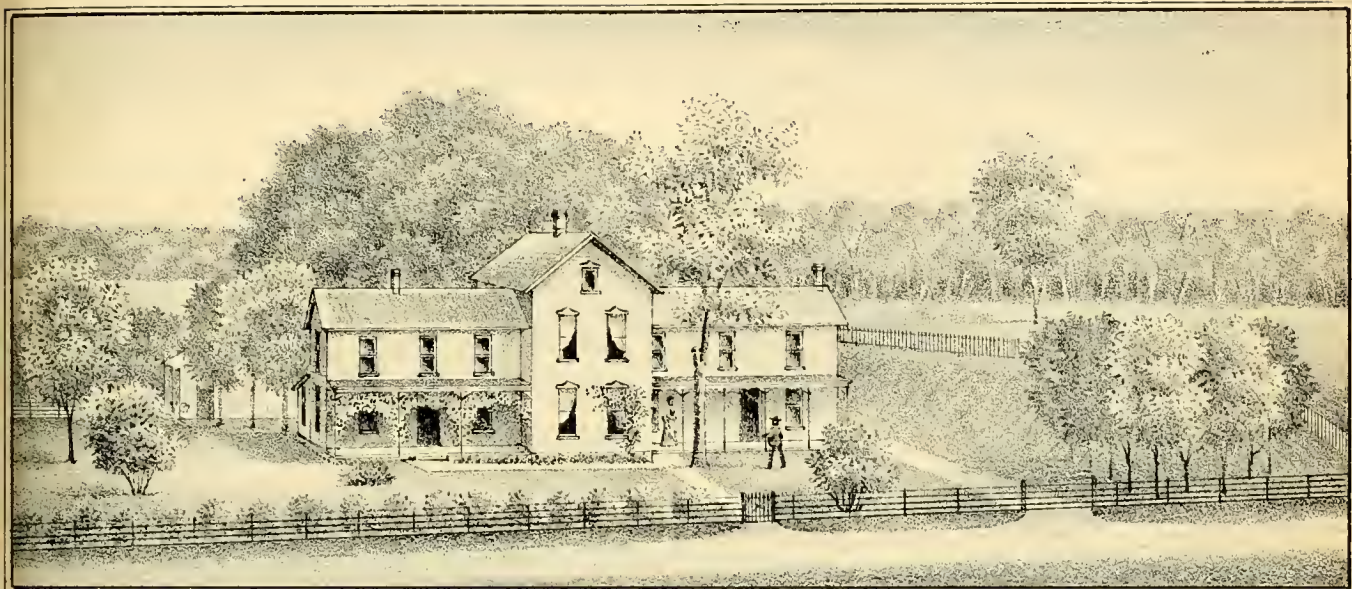
cally a Democrat, and well posted in local and national issues, Mr. Parish is too absorbed in his business to devote much time to politics, and has never sought public office, but is nevertheless ever ready to do his full share in all matters of public welfare, and is numbered among the leading citizens and substantial men of Ottawa County.



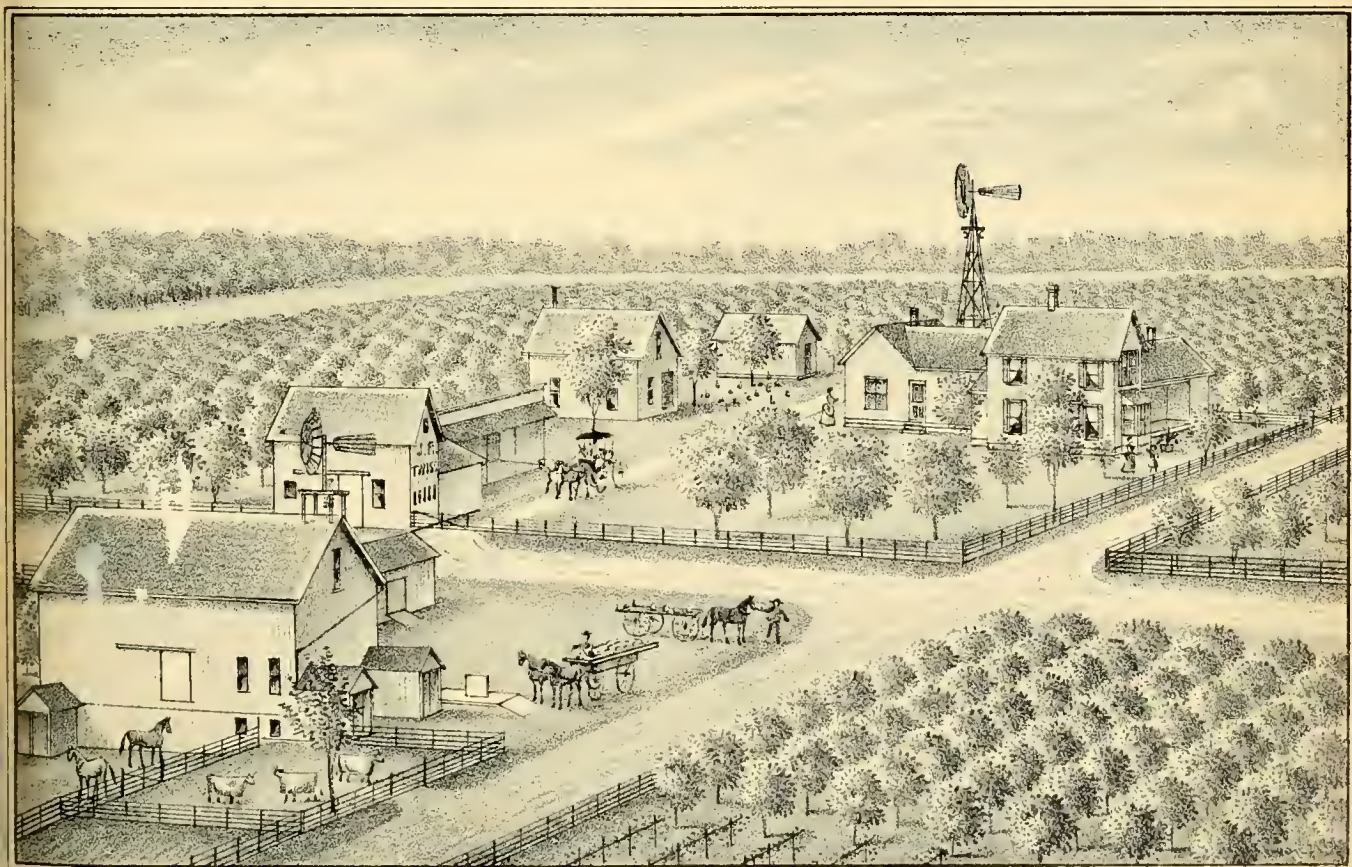
**W**ILLIAM ANDERSON. Among those of foreign birth who have sought homes in the United States and attained honorable positions in social and business circles may be mentioned the name of Mr. Anderson, a prominent farmer of Muskegon County, residing on section 23, Laketon Township. He inherits to a large degree the qualities of energy, probity and industry that have characterized the Swedes from time immemorial, and that make them such a desirable class of settlers. Without the assistance of influential friends and without money, he has worked his way onward and upward, gaining extensive possessions, and that which is better—the good-will of his associates.

The parents of our subject were Samuel and Sophia (Amolia) Anderson, natives of Sweden, where they passed their entire lives engaged in agricultural pursuits. They were the parents of six children, and the third of these was William, who was born in Sweden August 17, 1835. He was reared in the land of his birth, receiving a limited education in the common school, and early in life learning the trade of a gardener, at which he was employed for a number of years. In 1865, accompanied by his family, he emigrated to the United States, and, proceeding direct to Michigan, located in the city of Muskegon. At first he worked by the day at any employment he could secure, and for five years was with the firm of Ryerson, Hill & Co., millers.

Purchasing a farm in Laketon Township, Mr. Anderson entered upon the active career of a farmer, and has since continued to reside upon



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM ANDERSON, NORTH MUSKEGON, MICH.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN R. TWISS, SEC'S. 12 & 13, CASNOVIA TP. MUSKEGON CO., MICH.





the place he first located upon. He is the owner of fifty acres, upon which he has placed all the improvements of a first-class farm. His life proves what industry and perseverance may accomplish, for when he emigrated to this country he had only \$200 with which to start in business, but through tireless energy he has gained success. For nine years he conducted a boarding-house at his present residence, a substantial and conveniently arranged dwelling of twenty-two rooms.

The lady who in October, 1860, became the wife of Mr. Anderson bore the maiden name of Sophia Walberry and was born in Sweden. They were the parents of eight children, but only three are now living: Josephine, wife of John Henry, of Washington; Henry, a resident of Moline, Ill.; and Jennie, the wife of Thomas Donehan, of Saginaw, Mich. A little granddaughter, Maude, makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, and is tenderly cared for by them. In his political affiliations our subject is a staunch adherent of Republican principles, and supports the candidates of that party with his influence and ballot.



**J**OHAN R. TWISS, one of the most extensive fruit-growers of Casenovia Township, and a well-known citizen of Muskegon County, was born in the township of Norwich, Huron County, Ohio, on the 7th of September, 1819, being the son of William H. and Electa (Bennett) Twiss. His paternal grandfather, Abiel Twiss, emigrated to America from Germany in company with two brothers, and settled in Connecticut. Later he located in Monroe County, N. Y., and thence, in 1828, he removed to Huron County, Ohio, where he entered and improved two hundred acres. About 1860 he removed to Stark County, Ill., where his death occurred at the age of eighty-two. His wife survived him for a number of years, passing away at the age of ninety-three.

The father of our subject was one of five chil-

dren, the others being: George, Jonathan and Abiel, who all died in Illinois; and Harriet, who resides in Monroeville, Ohio. Grandfather Twiss was a Republican in politics, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Witter, was of English descent, and was born in New York in June, 1825. William H. Twiss was a child of three years when taken by his parents to Ohio. In 1851 he removed to Muskegon County, Mich., making the journey with an ox-team and a wagon. Reaching this county, he entered eighty acres on section 25, Casenovia Township, and gave his attention to its improvement. He also owned forty acres in Kent County.

During the Civil War William H. Twiss enlisted as a member of the Union army, but was rejected upon examination on account of disability. Politically, he was a Republican for years, but subsequently adopted Democratic principles. In his religious convictions he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was an honorable, upright man, who made his religion a part of his practical everyday life, and at his death, February 15, 1890, he was widely mourned as an energetic citizen, kind-hearted neighbor and helpful friend. Of his marriage five children were born: John R., Mary B. (Mrs. Liechty), George W., Smith and Worth W. The mother of these children was born in Ohio, whither her father, Isaac Bennett, had removed from New York, the State of his nativity. He and his wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Cassady, reared a family of five sons and five daughters.

After having gained a common-school education, our subject at the age of twenty located on section 12, Casenovia Township, where he has since resided. His original purchase consisted of forty acres, and he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres, which he has cleared. He has erected a number of neat farm buildings, and has planted fifty-seven acres in an orchard containing various kinds of fruit trees, including seven thousand peach trees. Farming has been his life vocation, although for seventeen years he also engaged in lumbering. He takes an active interest in local political affairs, and is a staunch adherent of Democratic principles.

June 11, 1871, Mr. Twiss married Miss Martha Probasco, who was born in Newaygo County, Mich. Her parents, George and Sarah (Surrarer) Probasco, emigrated from New York to Calhoun County, Mich., and later came to Kent County, and entered land upon the present site of Casenovia. There Mr. Probasco died in 1856, leaving his widow with two children, Martha and Jacob. Subsequently she married her brother-in-law, John Probasco, and they became the parents of one daughter. Her third husband was L. B. Murray, to whom she bore two sons. She was the daughter of Ransom Surrarer, a native of New York, whose father had emigrated to America from France. George Probasco was the son of Peter, who emigrated from New York to Ohio, and removed thence to Calhoun County, Mich., where he died. Our subject and his wife are the parents of three children: Royal C., Mabel B. and Octavia G.



**C**L. STRENG, a leading business man and prominent merchant of Montague, was born in the Province of Utrecht, Holland, July 11, 1834. He is the son of John Abraham and Maria (Schoeman) Streng, both natives of Holland and descendants of a long line of sturdy ancestry. John Abraham Streng was a hussar in the Belgian War, and a painter by trade, and followed that vocation in his native country until 1847, when he emigrated with his family to America. They settled on a farm in Saugatuck, Allegan County, Mich., where the father died a year later.

John A. and Maria Streng were the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters. Louis H., the eldest-born, is a painter residing in Grand Rapids. Gertrude married Charles A. Pfaff, a prominent politician, who was Marshal for years, and served as Supervisor of the city. He has also efficiently served as Sheriff of Ottawa County. Mr. Pfaff died in 1888, leaving a widow

and six children to mourn his loss. Our subject was the third in order of birth. John A. enlisted in the Civil War and served four years, participating in many hard-fought battles. He was under the command of McClellan and was in the Army of the Tennessee. He has since been chiefly connected with sawmills. Geziena married Frank Fragy, a sailor, who now has employment in the lighthouse at Grand Haven.

Our subject, who was fourteen years of age at the time of his father's death, assisted in the work of the farm until 1856, when the family removed to Holland, Mich., where his mother died, having survived her husband eight years. At Holland C. L. received employment in the store of Henry D. Post, and later clerked for his brother-in-law, Charles Pfaff. When the latter became Sheriff Mr. Streng, formerly a clerk, bought him out, and from 1860 to 1867 conducted the business with success. In 1864, shipping a boat-load of goods from Chicago, the boat was lost and its cargo went to the bottom, seriously crippling our subject, who had with self-reliant efforts worked his way upward. In 1867 the burning of the store completed his financial ruin and he was obliged to begin over again.

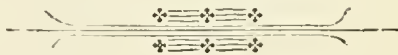
Mr. Streng now went to Grand Haven and engaged as head clerk for the firm of Squires & Osgood. The failure of this firm at the expiration of six months obliged him to seek other employment, and in a brief time he had secured the position of book-keeper for Ferry, Dowling & Co., at Montague. From 1868 until 1883 he continued in the same round of duty, and when the E. P. Ferry Lumber Company was incorporated he was elected Secretary and remained with them one year, after which he resigned, in the spring of 1884. He then took the census of Montague, after which he went alone to Grand Rapids, where he was employed in the private office of I. M. Weston, and was for a time book-keeper in the Fourth National Bank of Grand Rapids. It was not long, however, before Mr. Streng once more resumed his position as book-keeper with the E. P. Ferry Lumber Company. In the spring of 1885 he engaged in the dry-goods business in Montague, and from small beginnings has with enterprise built up a large

and rapidly increasing trade. He also has a store at Holland, Mich., which is managed by his son, Henry P. Streng.

Upon June 13, 1861, C. L. Streng and Miss Helena M. Sackers were united in marriage. Mrs. Streng was of Holland descent, and the daughter of Peter and Johanna (Voorlage) Sackers, the former a cabinet-maker, then of Grand Rapids. The estimable wife of our subject died in 1876, in Minneapolis, Minn., leaving to the care of her husband three children. John C., the eldest, is a graduate of the State University and was chief draughtsman in the Industrial Works of Bay City, where he remained from 1884 to 1893, and is now employed as draughtsman at South Milwaukee. He married Miss Chula Armstrong, of Bay City. Minnie Streng, who was for six years a clerk in her father's store, married Benjamin R. Hoffman, now in the Auditor's office of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad at Grand Rapids. They are the parents of one child, Ernest Streng Hoffman. Henry Peter Streng is a graduate of the Grand Rapids Commercial College and is a partner in the store which he manages at Holland. For two years he held with efficiency a position in the Grand Rapids National Bank, and for four years was book-keeper of the Widdicomb & Musselman wholesale grocery establishment.

Our subject married again in 1877, his second choice being Miss Mary Harting, daughter of a former leading artist of Grand Rapids. Three children have been born unto this union, Charles L., Henrietta and Frederick S., all of whom are enjoying the best educational advantages of their home vicinity. Politically, our subject has been a lifelong Democrat, and has held numerous offices of trust. For seventeen years Township Clerk, he has discharged the duties devolving upon him to the great satisfaction of his fellow-citizens. Uniting with the church in 1866, our subject, for twenty years a faithful Elder of the Presbyterian Church and an active religious worker, has also done much to advance the cause of temperance. Literally a self-made man, he may with satisfaction review a life of energetic industry, animated by a courage and determination which have enabled him to overcome obstacles and win financial

success and an abundant competence. An upright man and liberal-spirited citizen, he is universally respected and enjoys the high regard of many friends.



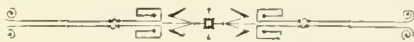
ALFRED ROBINSON, an honored pioneer settler of Ottawa County, Mich., and a man of sterling integrity of character, universally esteemed, passed to his rest mourned by a host of old-time friends, in whose hearts his memory will long be green. Our subject, a native of Otsego County, N. Y., was born in the year 1826, was educated in the common schools of the near vicinity of his birthplace, and attained manhood amid the familiar scenes of his childhood. In 1842, self-reliantly seeking his fortune in the West, Mr. Robinson, in company with a large party of more than two-score people, journeyed from the Empire State to Michigan and located in the woods in Robinson Township. Clearing the land, he developed a fine farm of two hundred acres, and at one time owned immense tracts of land. Together with his associates he had landed at Grand Haven, and nearly all of the party settled permanently within the boundaries of Ottawa County.

Our subject was united in marriage in Kent County, Mich., to Miss Julia Ann, daughter of John King, a long-time citizen of Kent County. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson passed their entire wedded lives in Ottawa County and there reared a family of six children. Louisa is the widow of Mortimer Lowing; Charles L. was the second in order of birth; Alfred makes his home in Robinson Township; Sarah is the wife of Edgar Freeman, of Grand Rapids; Emma is the wife of William Foster, of Robinson Village; and Edgar is a resident of Grand Rapids.

Charles L. Robinson, the eldest son and second child of our subject, is a native of Ottawa County, and was educated in the excellent public schools of his home locality. At eighteen years

of age, beginning life for himself, he engaged in lumbering, a pursuit which he followed more or less until 1873, when he entered into the business of a millwright, and since for several years has in different parts of the Wolverine State engaged in milling. In 1877 Charles L. Robinson and Miss Annie Griswold were united in marriage. Unto this union were born three children, two of whom are living, Mortimer and Watson B. The estimable wife did not many years survive her marriage, and some time after her death this son of our subject again wedded, marrying Miss Addie L. Carter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Carter, who still reside in Ottawa County. Unto this last union were born three children, Melbourne, Margueriete and Mabel.

In the month of December, 1892, Charles L. Robinson located in Agnew and successfully engaged in merchandising. He owns a part of the old homestead and has been financially prospered. He possesses the full confidence of his fellow-townsmen, by whom he has been a number of times elected to responsible positions of local trust. In the spring of 1893 he was elected Supervisor of Grand Haven Township, and is now transacting with efficiency the various duties of the office. He has also during the present year received the appointment of Postmaster of Agnew, and has long been known as a staunch Democrat, tried and true, and for about eleven years served as Town Clerk in Robinson. Fraternally a member of the Maccabees of Grand Haven, our subject has many friends among the order, and as a citizen and friend enjoys the high regard of a wide acquaintance.



**G**EORGE FULLER, a successful farmer of Tallmadge Township, and one of the energetic and public-spirited citizens of Ottawa County, was born in the State of New York, August 20, 1820. He is the eighth of a family of thirteen children born to Daniel and Annie (Ames) Fuller, natives of New York, who died respect-

ively about 1867 and 1863. His primary education was acquired in the common schools of Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., and at the age of twelve years he accompanied his parents to Michigan, settling with them in the woods of Wayne County. They came to Michigan at a date so early in the history of this State that Detroit, now the principal city of this powerful commonwealth, contained only three buildings. The surrounding country was all a wilderness, overgrown with tangled shrubbery and lofty forest trees.

This was in 1832. Sixty years and more have come and gone since this little family sought a home in Michigan. The parents are deceased and the children scattered in various parts of the country; but the State of which they were pioneers has continued to grow, and is now one of the most prominent in the galaxy of commonwealths of this great Union. Our subject spent ten years in Detroit, after which he removed to Macomb County and sojourned there for about three years. He came to Grand Rapids in February, 1843. At that season of the year the country was covered with snow and it was impossible to secure employment of any kind. He had five shillings in money and also had the promise from his brother, who lived near Grand Rapids, that he would give him work to do in the spring; meanwhile he was given the privilege of remaining with the brother and settling for his board afterward.

In the spring of 1843 Mr. Fuller began the chopping of timber, and succeeded in clearing one hundred acres in eighteen months. He has cleared a farm in Kent County, one in Newaygo County, and one in Ottawa County, upon which he resides. He has devoted his attention to farming and lumbering. In 1862 he enlisted as a member of the Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, in which he served until he was disabled, when he was discharged. During the period of his active service he participated in a number of skirmishes, in all of which he bore his part with the gallantry and courage of a true patriot.

Miss Emily, daughter of Jesse Smith, of Kent County, Mich., became the wife of our subject in 1845. Six children were born of the union. Re-

beece married John Betts and lives in Ottawa County; Susanna is the wife of Robert Andrews, and makes her home in Newaygo County; Euphema is the wife of the Rev. Robert Linn, of Indiana; George E. married Miss Ida Squires, and resides in Kansas; L. P. married Miss Mabel Applegarth and also lives in Kansas; and Louana is the wife of Andrew Vogel, and makes her home with our subject.

In politics Mr. Fuller is an advocate of the People's party. In 1880 he was nominated by the Democrats for Representative of Newaygo County, but declined the nomination and during the same year he cast his ballot with the Greenback party. He was the first Treasurer ever elected in Ashland Township, Newaygo County, and also filled the position of Supervisor for several terms. Socially, he is a member of Champlin Post No. 29, G. A. R., at Grand Rapids, Tallmadge Grange, and Berlin Lodge No. 248, F. & A. M. While not a member of any church, he believes in the immortality of the soul.



**A**LONZO B. SUMNER. Prominent among the farmers of White River Township, Muskegon County, may be mentioned the name of Mr. Sumner, an efficient and progressive agriculturist, whose home is located on section 11. He is the son of Putnam W. and Callista (Merriek) Sumner, the former of whom was born in Vermont in 1801, and the latter in New York in 1813. They were married in the Empire State, and for a time resided near Malone, where the father followed the occupation of a farmer, and was also engaged at his trade of a blacksmith.

Coming to Michigan in 1854, Putnam W. Sumner settled on a farm in Macomb County, where he resided for twelve years. Thence he came to Muskegon County and settled on section 11, White River Township, purchasing here a tract of timberland, wholly destitute of improvements and occupying a lonely situation, remote from any neigh-

bors. Here he continued to till the soil until his death, which occurred in April, 1892; his wife had passed away in 1880. They were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and upright and noble in character, winning by the kindness and goodness of their lives the high regard of all with whom they came in contact. A Republican in politics, he served as Supervisor of White River Township, Justice of the Peace and School Director.

In the Sumner family there were eight children, six of whom grew to maturity and three are now living. William P. is a resident of Detroit, Mich.; Julia is the wife of Thomas B. Hubbard, of White River Township, and the mother of three children; and our subject is the next in order of birth. George W. died, leaving a wife and five children, four of whom are now living; Laura, deceased, was the wife of Archie Green and the mother of two children; and Julius, the youngest, is also dead. During the war the family sympathized with the Union cause, and William P. served as a member of the Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry, being breveted Major.

Born in Malone, N. Y., April 21, 1851, the subject of this sketch was a child of three years when he was brought to Michigan, and he received a common-school education here. His time, however, was principally devoted to farm work, and early in life he gained a thorough knowledge of agriculture. At the age of twenty-one he went to Detroit, where he engaged as a clerk in his brother's store. After a short sojourn in Detroit he proceeded to the mining regions of Lake Superior in company with his brother George, and there engaged as a copper-miner in the employ of Mr. Farewell. He was also employed for one and one-half years in the Calumet & Heekla mines, and was afterward Superintendent of the Alloway Mine Railroad until the winter of 1873.

Returning to Muskegon County, Mr. Sumner has since resided on section 11, where he owns ninety acres of land, forty-five of which are under cultivation. He is largely interested in fruit, having planted apple, pear, peach and cherry trees in large numbers. Here he engages in general farming and stock-raising with flattering success.

He was married in 1876 to Miss Ada Selleck, whose father, Hubbard Selleck, migrated from New York to Michigan, settling first in Flint and removing thence to Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo County. Mrs. Ada Sumner died June 30, 1889, aged thirty-eight years. Their union had resulted in the birth of three children: Nellie L., Fred A. and Ada G. The second marriage of Mr. Sumner occurred May 28, 1891, and united him with Miss Ella M. Youngs, a native of Michigan and a daughter of the late William Youngs, a soldier in the Civil War. They are the parents of one child, Eloise.

In religious connections, Mr. Sumner is a Trustee in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is Librarian and Treasurer of the Sunday-school, in which he has also been a teacher. In politics he is a Republican, with Prohibition sympathies. He is at present Moderator of School District No. 4, and has frequently been a delegate to conventions. From 1886 until 1889 he was Supervisor of White River Township; he also served as Township Treasurer for two terms, and as Highway Commissioner for one term.



**J**AMES HUNTLEY. Each succeeding year witnesses many marked improvements in the city of Holland, particularly in the way of fine business blocks, residences, etc., and in all these structures are blended strength, durability and beauty. Among those who have acquired a wide reputation as contractors and builders, there is probably no one more popular and prominent than James Huntley, whose reputation is not merely local, but extends over a wide scope of country. This gentleman is well qualified for executing all work appertaining to his business, displays remarkably good judgment, and is in every way well qualified to render satisfaction to all placing orders or special commissions in his hands. He understands thoroughly every detail of his business, is prompt, energetic

and active, and thoroughly deserves the success that has crowned his efforts. He is President of the Ottawa Furniture Company at Holland, and is one of the most stirring, wide-awake business men of the place.

Mr. Huntley is a native of England, born in Kent, October 10, 1845, and the son of George Huntley, who was also a native of Kent. The father, who was a contractor and builder in his native town, was a man of more than ordinary prominence. Our subject was educated in England and after leaving the schoolroom, he began learning the trade of carpenter and joiner, which he followed for eleven years. In the year 1868 he was married in England to Miss Julia Thorpe, a native of Kent, and a daughter of James Thorpe, who was also a builder and contractor. In the year 1870 Mr. Huntley and family crossed the ocean to America and came direct to Michigan, locating in Holland, where he opened a carpenter shop. Every year he kept rebuilding, and is now one of the foremost men in his business in the city. Many of the fine residences that have been erected by him are a source of pleasure to the owners and of pride to Holland, a town already rich in the possession of tasty and commodious dwellings.

Mr. Huntley is President of the electric light plant in Holland, the same having been organized about eighteen months ago, and he was one of the organizers of the Ottawa Furniture Company in 1890. This company employs about one hundred and ten men and the factory is located on River Street. This vast enterprise does an annual business of \$165,000. It has a capital stock of \$40,000, and has aided materially the progress and development of the city. Mr. Huntley is a stockholder in the First State Bank. Like many of the best citizens of the county, he started out to fight life's battles for himself with limited means, but by industry and good management has become one of the substantial men of the city. All the most prominent buildings, both for private use and for business, have been erected by Mr. Huntley and are a credit to his skill and ability as a contractor and builder. In his political views he is a Democrat and has ever advocated the principles

of that party. He has been a member of the School Board for some time, and has ever been public-spirited and enterprising, contributing liberally of his means to advance all worthy enterprises. Socially, he is a member of the Elks and has held the office of Senior Warden in the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons. To his marriage were born the following children: George, Mary, Nellie, Harry, Cecil and Adeline.



**E**ZRA H. SMEAD. The Empire State has furnished to Michigan, and especially to Ot-tawa County, many representative citizens, and among them might be mentioned Ezra H. Smead, who has resided here for many years. In everything connected with the growth and prosperity of the county, he has ever taken an active interest, and as a tiller of the soil he stands in the foremost ranks. His life of industry and usefulness, and his record for integrity and true-hearted faithfulness in all the relations of life, have given him a hold upon the community which all might well desire to share.

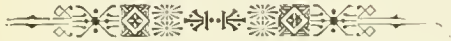
Mr. Smead's parents, Charles and Patty (Rose) Smead, were natives respectively of Canada and Vermont, and the Smead family was among the first in the Blue Mountain State. The Rose family settled in Vermont at a later date and came originally from Ireland. Charles Smead was a farmer by occupation, and moved from New York (whither his parents had removed at an early date) and settled on the farm where our subject now resides in 1866. This farm was covered with a heavy growth of timber, and it required a great amount of work to get it in condition for farming. For years he was engaged in tilling on this farm, and here died in 1885, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife still survives, and is now in her ninetieth year, having been born in 1804. Mr. Smead was born in 1799. While residing in New York, both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he was Class-

leader in the same. After coming to the Wolverine State, they attached themselves to the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and passed the remainder of their days identified with that church. They were the parents of ten children, eight of whom lived to years of maturity. Mariah is the wife of Ransom Stevens; Avis, deceased, was the wife of Robert Avery, of Rhode Island; Alfie is the widow of Lemuel B. Johnson, and resides in Idaho; Charles, who is deceased, left a family in Grand Rapids; Hannah is the wife of Darwin Merritt, of St. Lawrence County, N. Y.; Harriet, deceased, was the wife of Robert Cantrell; E. H. is our subject; Elijah R. resides in this township; and Riley and one unnamed died in infancy.

Ezra H. Smead, the subject of this sketch, was principally educated in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and came to Michigan with his father. Previous to locating in this State, he was engaged in farming, and this has continued to be his chosen occupation. When the family first settled in Michigan, Mr. Smead paid \$500 in cash for the farm on which our subject now lives, and had sufficient left to enable him to pass through the first year. The country was wild and unsettled, there were no public roads, Indians abounded, and the woods were full of game. Mr. Smead has done considerable hard work in his day, but now has his farm in a fine state of cultivation. Nearly all the improvements made on it have been done by himself or under his immediate supervision. The first five years after coming to the State were spent on a rented farm, and during this time our subject and his father cleared a portion of the farm and erected a frame residence and a good barn. Mr. Smead has a good orchard of three acres, and in a small way is engaged in bee culture.

In 1869 Mr. Smead was elected Township Clerk and re-elected to the same position for six years. He has also served as School Inspector, and was elected a number of times as Justice of the Peace, but would not serve. On the 1st of January, 1867, he was married to Miss Fannie E. Woodburry, a native of New York, and the daughter of Nathan and Lucy (Maxfield) Woodburry, both of whom died when Mrs. Smead was quite small. Mr. and Mrs. Woodburry were the parents of three chil-

dren: Fannie E., John Joseph and Susan. To Mr. and Mrs. Smead were born two children: Elmer E., born November 8, 1867, and one who died in infancy. They have an adopted daughter, Alice S. (Wilks) Smead. Mr. and Mrs. Smead and the children are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Mr. Smead is Trustee of the building and property and Steward of the church. Mrs. Smead is Treasurer and Steward of the church, and President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union at Allendale, as well as Vice-President of the Ladies' Aid Society, of which she was the founder and first President. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smead take a deep interest in Sunday-school work, the latter having been a teacher since the organization of the church. The son, Elmer E., served as Secretary of the Sunday-school, and takes quite an active interest in the school.



**J**OHAN W. A. TURNER. Honored among the citizens of Ottawa County stands the name of Mr. Turner, who owns and occupies one of Tallmadge Township's most attractive and highly cultivated farms. Since locating here he has planted fruit and shade trees, divided the fields by a fine system of fencing, erected substantial buildings adapted to their varied purposes, and introduced modern conveniences of a desirable nature. He no longer, as in years past, actively tills the soil, but, notwithstanding advancing years, he still superintends the management of his estate.

The father of our subject, Ezra Turner, a native of Massachusetts, gained the title of Captain from his services as commanding officer of a company during the War of 1812. He married Miss Anna, daughter of Nathan Beman, who during the conflict with the British piloted the famous Ethan Allen into Ft. Ticonderoga. Our subject, the eleventh in order of age among his father's family, was born in Schuyler Falls, Clinton County, N. Y., August 27, 1819. During his childhood he at-

tended the schools of his native town, where he gained a practical education, fitting him for the stern realities of life. His time, however, was devoted principally to agriculture, and he early in life gained a thorough knowledge of farming pursuits while aiding his father on the home farm.

At the age of seventeen, our subject commenced to earn his own support, and for a short time worked as a farm laborer, but later learned the trade of a wrought-iron maker, at which he found employment for a period of eleven years. He then purchased a farm in his native county, but after tilling the soil there for a few years he bought a tract of land in Lawrence County, N. Y., where he made his home for fourteen years, meanwhile bringing the place to a high state of cultivation and embellishing it with substantial buildings. Upon disposing of his interests in New York, he came to Michigan and for a few months visited with relatives at Grand Rapids.

Later, purchasing the farm where he now lives, Mr. Turner commenced the arduous task of improving and cultivating the place, which is now one among the many handsome estates in Tallmadge Township. In 1840 he cast his ballot for Gen. William H. Harrison, and had the intense gratification of voting for the grandson of that illustrious warrior and President many years afterward. Since the organization of the Republican party he has upheld its principles and been an earnest advocate of every measure originated under its auspices. He has served as Supervisor of Tallmadge Township for two terms and has also occupied other responsible positions.

The marriage of Mr. Turner occurred on the 11th of July, 1842, and united him with Miss Percis, daughter of Gardner and Elizabeth (Ricketson) Davis, residents of Peru, Clinton County, N. Y. To this marriage have been born three children, two of whom are living. George D. married Lillian Marvin, and resides at Grand Haven, this State. John G. chose as his wife Miss Sarah Chapel and lives with his venerable parents on the home farm. July 11, 1892, Mr. Turner and his good wife celebrated their golden wedding, and upon that happy occasion their friends assembled at their home, bestowing upon



them congratulations and gifts of value. It is the wish of their hosts of friends that they may survive for many years in the enjoyment of health and happiness.



**T**HOMAS MURPHY, Chief of Police of Muskegon, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., September 7, 1844. He is the son of Charles and Jane (Wright) Murphy, natives respectively of Ireland and England, who emigrated to the United States soon after their marriage and located in Rochester, N. Y., remaining in that city until their death. Thomas of this sketch passed his early school days in Canandaigua, where he gained a practical education. Upon leaving school, he was for a time employed on the railroad, remaining thus engaged until the outbreak of the Civil War.

In 1861 Mr. Murphy, though a youth of only seventeen, enlisted as a member of the Ninety-ninth New York Infantry, and served for two years, being honorably discharged at the expiration of his term of enlistment. He then re-enlisted as a member of the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery, and was assigned with his regiment to the Army of the Potomac, in which he served with valor until the close of the war. In recognition of meritorious conduct he was promoted from the ranks to the position of First Lieutenant, and subsequently became Captain of his company. Among the battles in which he participated may be mentioned the engagements of Fair Oaks and Spottsylvania Court House, together with a large number of minor skirmishes. In September, 1865, he was honorably discharged, and returned to Rochester, N. Y., bearing with him the record of a brave soldier and gallant officer.

After his return to Rochester, Mr. Murphy was for four years engaged as a clerk in a hotel. In 1871 he came to Michigan, locating in Muskegon, and accepted the position of conductor on the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad. He continued

in the employ of the railroad for sixteen years, holding various positions, and finally receiving a merited promotion to the position of General Roadmaster, in which capacity he served until, on account of failing health, he was obliged to resign. Upon retiring from railroad service he was appointed Chief of Police, in which he has proved himself an efficient officer.

In his fraternal connections, Mr. Murphy is identified with the Knights Templar and the Maccabees, also the Modern Woodmen of America and Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R. Politically, he is an earnest and enthusiastic champion of the Democratic party, of which he is a firm and warm supporter, advocating its principles with unwavering loyalty and fidelity. Kind and considerate in his intercourse with his associates, and ever thoughtful and helpful in his business dealings, he enjoys the regard of the citizens of the community.



**D**C. OAKES, a successful banker of Coopersville, Ottawa County, Mich., and well known as a man of practical business ability, has been prominently connected with various leading interests of his present locality. He is a stockholder in the Coopersville Creamery, and when the building was erected in 1893 was elected Treasurer. He is also largely interested in the elevator business of the village. Our subject is a native of Michigan, and was born in St. Joseph County, his parents being among the earliest settlers in that part of the State. His father, David Oakes, was a native of the Empire State, but when only a little lad journeyed with his father and mother from New York to the Westward, the paternal grandparents then making their home in Ohio. David Oakes and his wife emigrated to the Wolverine State in 1852, and, locating in the dense woods of St. Joseph County, the father entered with energetic industry into the clearing, cultivation and improvement of a farm. A man of ability, he had received

a thoroughly practical education in the schools of Ohio and had taught in his early manhood. He was guided by upright principles and was a courageous and truly patriotic American citizen. When the Civil War broke out, David Oakes, raising a company of volunteers, was commissioned Captain and enlisted under Gov. Blair. The father served with gallantry under Gen. Rosecrans, but shortly after the battle of Murfreesboro died from the exposure and fatigue incidental to the campaign. A year later our subject lost his mother, so that at the early age of eleven years he was left without a home and had to make his own way in the world after that.

The surviving children of the parents' family were Dustin C., our subject, and Jessie F., now Mrs. H. R. Curtis, of Lyons. Mr. Oakes passed the days of childhood and attained to manhood in St. Joseph County. Ambitious and self-reliant, he worked out by the month to acquire the means to educate himself in the Agricultural College, from which institution he graduated with honor in 1874. Immediately following the completion of his studies, Mr. Oakes taught school for one year, and achieved success as an instructor.

In 1876 Dustin C. Oakes and Miss Nora, daughter of Rufus Kelly, of Lyons, were married. For the succeeding five years our subject prosperously engaged in the tilling of the soil. He served as Deputy County Clerk for one year, then soon after entered into banking, to which latter business he has devoted himself mainly since 1883, when he settled in Shelby, Oceana County, his permanent home for a half-score of years. Upon January 1, 1891, Mr. Oakes removed to Coopersville, and bought his present business of D. O. Watson & Co. and continuing in the same has prosperously extended the original interests, and in his present relations with the public enjoys the entire confidence of the community by whom he is surrounded. Although comparatively a new-comer in the village, our subject is now recognized as an important factor in the promotion and development of local enterprise.

Two children, a daughter and son, have with their bright presence cheered the pleasant home. Mr. and Mrs. Oakes occupy a prominent social po-

sition and are foremost in the good works of their locality. Fraternally, our subject is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has received the highest degree in that ancient and honored order. Widely known and highly esteemed for his business and social attainments, Mr. Oakes is universally respected and possesses the best wishes of a host of friends.



**A**RTHUR L. STURGIS. The agricultural interests of Muskegon County have a worthy and honorable representative in the gentleman above named, who for a number of years has been successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 30, Eggleston Township. As an agriculturist he has made of his chosen occupation a science, to the study of which he has given his close attention, gaining in return a thorough knowledge of every department of farm work. In the rotation of crops and fertilization of the soil, he exercises excellent judgment, and thus every acre of the land is made to produce the very best results.

Born in Romeo, Mich., June 9, 1854, our subject is the son of Judson T. and Fannie (Harris) Sturgis, natives of the State of New York. His father was a harness-maker by occupation, and during the opening year of the Civil War enlisted in the Union army and for four years fought valiantly in the defense of our country's cause. His children are justly proud of his brave and loyal service, and in the annals of our nation his name is recorded as one of the heroes of the long and bloody conflict. At the close of the war, when peace once more reigned throughout this country, he returned to the old home in Muskegon County, Mich.

Upon locating in Muskegon County in the fall of 1865, Judson T. Sturgis embarked in farming pursuits, and was thus engaged for seven years, after which he engaged in the harness business for

about twelve years, or until his death in 1890. Our subject, before the demise of his father, succeeded to the management of the harness business, which he conducted until 1889. He then disposed of his interests in Muskegon, and removing to Eggleston Township settled upon the farm he now occupies. Here he owns one hundred and twenty acres of well-improved land, upon which he has already placed a number of valuable improvements, including a substantial set of buildings. Outside of farming affairs he has other large and valuable interests, and has recently received the contract for graveling five miles of county road at \$5,000.

A very important event in the life of Mr. Sturgis was his marriage, which occurred on the 23d of September, 1881, and united him with Miss Alice, daughter of Joseph and Mary Bates, natives of New York and Canada, respectively. Mrs. Sturgis was born in Trènton, Mich., and was there reared to womanhood. She is a lady possessing many noble qualities, which endear her to a large circle of acquaintances. Her interests centre in her home, and she has been not only an efficient helpmate, but also a devoted mother to her three children, Judson J., Alvin A. and Mildred.



**B**RUCE H. JACKSON, General Manager of the lumbering of the West Michigan Lumber Company, was born in Johnson Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, on the 5th of April, 1844. The family of which he is an honored representative has an established reputation for patriotism, energy and loyalty, and our subject, by his honorable and successful life, has added lustre to the name he bears. His paternal grandfather, John W. Jackson, enlisted in the War of 1812 as a Drum Major, and subsequently was promoted to the rank of Captain. After the close of the conflict, he resumed farming operations in New York, and also engaged in merchandising. From New York he removed to Ohio, where his death occurred.

An active Democrat in politics, Grandfather Jackson served in a number of township offices, representing his fellow-citizens acceptably in whatever position he was called to occupy. In the Methodist Episcopal Church he possessed great influence, and his counsels were always judicious and acceptable. He was twice married, and by his first union became the father of two children, Herman and Eliza A. Of his second marriage three children were born. Herman D. Jackson, father of our subject, was born in New York, and accompanied his parents to Ohio, where he learned the trade of a saddler. He followed that occupation, and also engaged in various other business enterprises, until his death in 1857, at the age of forty-eight. He had been twice married, his first union resulting in the birth of one son, James. He and his second wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Chase, were the parents of three children, Mary A., Bruce H. and Hector R.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was David Chase, a contractor and carpenter, who resides in New York. Bruce H. was the recipient of common-school advantages in the Buckeye State, and grew to a sturdy manhood well qualified to fill a position of usefulness in the business world. In 1861, as a member of Company B, Eighty-fourth Ohio Infantry, he served in West Virginia. At the expiration of his term of enlistment, he again went to the front, his name being enrolled as a member of Company F, Sixth Ohio Cavalry. He participated in the engagements at Gettysburg, Custer, Spottsylvania, Barndon Cross Roads (or Muddy Branch), Danville, the battle of the Wilderness, Wilson's raid, Ft. Stephens, and other engagements of minor importance. While at Salisbury in a riot he was injured while attempting to escape.

On the 5th of August, 1865, Mr. Jackson was honorably discharged at Camp Chase, and, returning to his home, soon afterward entered the oil regions. In 1866 he went to Newaygo, Mich., where for one year he was engaged as a stage driver. In the summer of 1867 he was in the employ of Stookey, Hutch & Varney, lumbermen, and later he engaged in the lumber business for himself. For fourteen years he has been Superin-

tendent and General Manager for the Western Michigan Lumber Company, and meantime has resided in various places. For six years he has made his home in Casenovia, of which he is a prominent citizen. His landed possessions include eighty acres in Casenovia Township, a half-interest in live hundred and twenty acres in Moorland Township, Musekegon County, some valuable real estate in Casenovia and two hundred acres in Newaygo County.

Socially, Mr. Jackson affiliates with the Masonic fraternity, being a member of the Chapter. Politically a Republican, his first Presidential ballot was cast for Gen. Grant, and he has ever since upheld the principles of that party. October 5, 1867, he married Miss Emogene, daughter of David and Lucy (Blodgett) Bell, and they became the parents of three children: Maud V., who died at the age of eleven years; Mamie B. and Ward G. The children have been the recipients of excellent educational advantages, and the son was graduated from the Valley City Commercial College in 1891.



**D**AVID E. CALIFF. There are few more respected farmers of Muskegon County than our subject, whose home is on section 13, Fruitland Township. He is one of the early settlers of this State, to which he emigrated in 1858 and a year later located in the pine woods on his present farm. Here he entered one hundred and sixty acres from the Government, and has made all the improvements upon the place himself. It was formerly heavily timbered, but the owner has cut down and sold most of the lumber on the place. It is now a well-developed farm, fertile and rich.

The parents of our subject were Jonathan and Polly (Chamberlain) Califf. The father of the former, Stephen Califf, was born in one of the New England States and followed agricultural pursuits. He had learned the cooper's trade and engaged in that business during the winters. About the year

1814, he emigrated Westward to Pennsylvania, settling in Bradford County and becoming the owner of a good farm, upon which he remained until his death in 1840, at the age of seventy-five years. His ballot was ever cast in favor of the Democratic party, and, religiously, he was a member of the Baptist Church. Jonathan Califf was born and reared in Vermont and there received as good an education as could be received at that early day. Of his father he learned the cooper's trade, which he followed more or less during his life. He was also a good general farmer in Pennsylvania, to which State he removed with his parents when about twenty years of age. He was one of a family of twelve children. In Bradford County was celebrated his marriage with Miss Chamberlain, and six children came to bless their union. Of these our subject is the second in order of birth and the others are as follows: Linas A., deceased; O. W.; Lucy, deceased; Irena A., wife of Jonathan King; and Samuel. The mother of these children was a devoted member of the Baptist Church, and was called from the shores of time in 1836. Jonathan Califf married for his second wife Miss Cynthia Orton. He was Captain of a company during the muster days. In early life, he affiliated with the Democratic party, but afterward became a supporter of the Whig party. His death occurred in the Keystone State.

The birth of David E. Califf occurred in Bradford County, Pa., in 1825. He received a fair education in the schools of the neighborhood and was early inured to farm life. He remained with his parents until reaching his twenty-first year, when he purchased a piece of wild land on which he lived for several years, during which time he greatly improved the property. Believing that he could better his prospects by removing to a newer State, he came to Michigan in 1858, since which time he has been a prominent factor in her development and prosperity. As stated at the beginning of this sketch, it has been nearly thirty-five years since his settlement on his present farm, and during this period he has always been actively interested in the welfare of this region. Recognizing his ability, his neighbors have frequently called upon him to hold responsible local positions, and among others

he has been Township Treasurer. In politics, he supports the Republican nominees and principles. In religious belief, he is a Methodist and has for many years been a worker in the church.

Before leaving Pennsylvania, the marriage of David E. Califf and Miss Harriett Knickerbocker was celebrated. Her parents were Alvin and Lucinda (Kelly) Knickerbocker, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. Of the nine children, who graced the union of our subject and his wife, two died in childhood, while the record of those surviving is as follows: Charles E. wedded Emma Evens; Frank took for his wife Miss Mary Polson; Adelbert married Ida Gage; Emma is the wife of Albert Jimkins; and Ernest R. married Nellie McMillon. Ella, now deceased, was the wife of B. Scolds; and James, deceased, married Elizabeth Sack. The devoted wife and mother of these children departed this life in 1890. Two of the sons, Charles and Frank, served with credit in the War of the Rebellion. The former was in the infantry service, while the latter belonged to the department of artillery. Though they took part in a number of engagements they were fortunate in escaping without injury. Mr. Califf and his family are deservedly honored and respected in this county.



**F**RANK M. SPRAGUE, a lumber dealer of Grand Haven, well deserves representation in this volume, for he is a leading business man of the city and has been prominent in all public affairs that tend to promote the growth and upbuilding of the community. His life record is as follows: A native of the Empire State, he was born in Jefferson County on the 2d of April, 1838. He comes of an old family of New York, but the Spragues were originally from Wales and settled in New England during Colonial days. The grandfather of our subject, Horatio Sprague, spent his entire life in the Empire State. The father, Lonson G. Sprague, was there born, and having arrived at mature years he wedded Mary

Warner. Her death occurred in 1863, and he departed this life in Jefferson County in 1875, at an advanced age.

The gentleman whose name heads this record is the eldest in a family of ten children. He was reared to habits of industry and usefulness, and as the result became a self-reliant and enterprising man. His own education being completed, he engaged in educating others, being a school teacher for some time. He had come to the West when only fifteen years of age, and while still a youth shipped before the mast on the vessel, "M. L. Collins," which sailed from Toledo, Ohio. He was on the Great Lakes for sixteen years, and by meritorious conduct won promotion and advanced step by step until he became captain of a vessel. During the winter season, when it was impossible to sail on the Lakes, he would go to New York and sail on the Atlantic, until the arrival of another spring would make navigation on the Lakes again possible, when he would return. He continued sailing on the inland seas until 1872.

In 1860, Mr. Sprague was united in marriage with Miss Martha J. Wilder, of Oswego County, N. Y., who after eighteen years of married life died leaving two children, daughters, Frances M. and Berdella. In 1881, Mr. Sprague was again married, his second union being with Miss Marietta Hutson, of Grand Haven. They have a pleasant home at the corner of Third and Columbia Streets, and its hospitable doors are ever open for the reception of their many friends.

When Mr. Sprague left the Lakes he began ship-carpentering and later engaged in the millwright business. In 1874, he began handling and inspecting lumber. He is a splendid judge of both hard and soft woods and can therefore buy lumber to good advantage. He is now conducting a thriving lumber trade on his own account, which yields him an excellent income. His success is largely due to his enterprise and industry and able management, as well as to his knowledge of the qualities of lumber. In politics, Mr. Sprague is independent. Socially, he is connected with Highland Tent No. 203, K. O. T. M., and is a member of Ottawa Lodge No. 46, I. O. O. F. He is a pleasant, genial gentleman, whose cordial and gentlemanly

manner has made him very popular and won him a host of friends, not only in this community, but wherever business or social interests have taken him.



**E**NOS PARRISH. Of the many prominent farmers and old settlers of Ottawa County, Mich., Mr. Parrish is well worthy of mention, for he has resided in this section nearly all his life, and has ever had its interests at heart. A product of the Empire State, born July 26, 1827, he is the youngest child living of seven born to Eli and Elizabeth (Lathrop) Parrish, natives of Maryland. This worthy couple were married in their native State, but subsequently moved to New York, where they remained until 1836, and then came to Michigan, settling in Wayne County. There they were among the very first settlers, and Mr. Parrish followed farming there until 1850, when he came to Polkton Township, Ottawa County, and was again among the pioneers. His wife had passed away in Wayne County in 1814, but Mr. Parrish's death occurred in Ottawa County, after a long and useful career. The seven children born to them were as follows: Atridge, deceased, who was the wife of John Stevison; Orin, deceased, who was a soldier in the Rebellion, and died at Nashville in 1861; Edna, widow of Anson Hinman; Joel, deceased, who served in the war with Mexico in 1846, and died in the Lone Star State; Amos, deceased, who was in the Rebellion; Elsie, wife of John Dolittle; and Enos, our subject.

The last-named grew to manhood in the newly settled sections of Michigan, and as a consequence received only a limited education. When twenty years of age he was filled with a patriotic desire to aid the Old Flag, and he joined Company K, Third Regiment United States Dragoons (cavalry), and fought in the war with Mexico in 1846, participating in all the principal engagements down to the capture of the city of Mexico, in which he took part. He was with Gen. Kearny when he made the charge on the city gates, and was one of the first

to approach the gates. Here the United States dragoons were repulsed and Gen. Kearny got his arm broken. After the capture of the city Mr. Parrish was only in a few skirmishes with guerrillas. In the spring of 1848 he left Mexico for home, *via* New Orleans and St. Louis, and was discharged at Jefferson Barracks, at the last-named city. Reaching home in August, he worked by the month in Wayne and other counties of Michigan, but finally settled in Polkton Township, Ottawa County, where he had located his land warrant, received for services during the Mexican War.

He had opened up and improved his farm in a great many ways at the breaking out of the Rebellion, and in the month of December, 1863, he joined Company E, of the First Michigan Light Artillery, which was attached to the Army of the Cumberland, but participated only in the battle of Nashville, and a few skirmishes. He was neither wounded nor captured during the Mexican and the Civil Wars, although he was under fire in this country and Mexico fifty or more times. On the 31st of July, 1865, he was discharged at Jackson, Mich. After coming home he continued to reside in Polkton Township until 1868, when he moved onto his present farm, consisting of two hundred and forty acres. It was unimproved, and to clear it of the heavy timber with which it was covered he engaged in lumbering. He now owns only one hundred acres, but he has sixty acres of this under a fine state of cultivation. He has served as Highway Commissioner for six years, and has held other positions in the township.

Mr. Parrish was first married in 1852, to Miss Valeria Wait, a native of Michigan, and daughter of Joseph and Mary A. (Weeden) Wait, both originally from the Empire State. To Mr. and Mrs. Parrish were born two children: D. W., who lives in Allendale; and Fredore in this county. Mrs. Parrish died in 1856. Two years later Mr. Parrish was married to Miss Harriett Mazuzan, a native of Vermont, and a daughter of Erastus and Amy (Mead) Mazuzan, of French and English extraction respectively. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Mazuzan and named in the order of their births as follows: Celia, John (deceased),

Harriett, and Julia and Juliette, deceased. Mrs. Parrish was about seven years of age when her mother died, and her father afterwards married Miss Betsey A. Bailey, who bore him three children, Mary, Paulus and William. After his marriage Mr. Mazuzan located in the State of New York, and there passed the remainder of his days.

To Mr. and Mrs. Parrish were born five children, as follows: Artema, deceased; John A., who resides in this county; Hattie, wife of Martin H. Brown, who resides at Battle Creek, Mich.; Valeria M., deceased; and Orin L., who resides in this county. Mr. Parrish commenced life poor, and is an example of what can be accomplished by ambitious and intelligent young men, whose only fortune at first consists of good health, energy, integrity and oneness of purpose. He has always been one of the prominent men of the county, and one of the highly respected pioneers. He experienced all the trials and hardships of pioneer life, as when he settled here the nearest store was at Lamont, and only carried a few dollars' worth of goods, and the nearest mill, a water mill, was at Berlin. Mr. Parrish is a member of William Thurkettle Post, G.A. R., at Allendale Centre, of which he is Quartermaster. Politically, he is a member of the Farmers' party, or Populist. Mrs. Parrish is a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, and two of the children, Mrs. Brown and John, are members of the same.



**W**ILLIAM CROCKETT, a highly respected citizen and representative general agriculturist and stock-raiser, pleasantly located on section 11, Holton Township, Muskegon County, has for twenty-five years been intimately associated with the upward growth and rapid advancement of the vital interests and improvements of his neighborhood and immediate vicinity. Our subject, a native of Canada and born in the Province of Nova Scotia in 1845, was the son of

George and Mary (Hatch) Crockett. The father, who was born in the same part of Canada as his son William, was a farmer by occupation and remained with his parents until their death. The father and mother surviving and hale and hearty have passed their lives among the familiar scenes of early days, and are still residing upon the old farm once owned by the grandfather. The parents, both members of the Presbyterian Church, have ever been earnest workers in behalf of the extension of religious influence and usefulness, and in the community where they have spent so many peaceful and industrious years they are universally respected and esteemed.

Four children, two daughters and two sons, brightened the old Canadian homestead. William was the eldest-born; Mary is deceased; Charles makes his home in Lowell, Mass. Jane married Milow Mansfield, of Oceana County, Mich. Our subject received his education in the district schools of Canada, and, trained to habits of manly self-reliance, at the age of fifteen years began life for himself. Leaving home, he worked for a few years upon a neighboring farm, and later received at better remuneration employment in a stone-quarry, engaging in the labor of that occupation for three years. At the expiration of this length of time Mr. Crockett set out in earnest to seek his fortune, and journeying to the Gulf of St. Lawrence embarked as a sailor upon a long and extended voyage to Liverpool, Cuba and New York City, from which latter place he returned home satisfied with his one salt-water experience. Not long after Mr. Crockett, determined to win his upward way, finally decided to remove to the States and emigrated to Michigan, which since 1860 has been his permanent home.

Locating in Muskegon County, our subject has continuously resided since then in the near vicinity of his present home. At first accepting any work which his hands could find to do, Mr. Crockett labored in the lumber camps, handled lumber on the docks, worked on a farm and boated on the river. Toiling with unceasing industry, our subject with frugal management at last accumulated a small capital, and in 1876 bought eighty acres of wild land. Seventy acres since brought under

a high state of cultivation annually yield an abundant harvest, and engaging in mixed farming Mr. Crockett has achieved success. Our subject was married in Muskegon County in 1889 to Miss Ida Gallup, daughter of John and Susan (Earl) Gallup, pioneer residents of Ingham County, Mich., in which locality both Mrs. Crockett and her mother were born, reared and educated. Mr. Gallup is a native of New York State, but long a citizen of the West, has taken an active part in its advancement. The union of our subject and his accomplished wife has been blessed by the birth of one son, Earl. Mr. Crockett is politically a Republican, but has never been an office-seeker, although deeply interested in both local and national issues. Financially prospered, he is ever ready to aid in matters of public welfare, and is numbered among the substantial citizens of Holton Township.



**R**OBERT ROBINSON was born in Hempsey, Scotland, May 7, 1830, and is the son of Henry and Mary (Woodrow) Robinson, natives of Scotland, the former of Inverness, and the latter of Dumfries. The father was a blacksmith by occupation, having learned his trade in Glasgow. He remained in the employ of one firm at Liverpool for many years, or until his death, in 1837. The death of the mother occurred about fourteen months later.

Of the six children in the parental family, our subject is among the youngest and is the only surviving member of the family. Being deprived of his parents early in life, he had few educational advantages, and when ten years of age entered the employ of Tom Newgent, with whom he remained about six months. He would not consent to be bound out as an apprentice according to the wishes of his employer, but engaged to work for James Gardner, a baker, with whom he remained for about nine months, then worked for a Mr. Graham as a sorter of cotton. At this he was employed for about three months, then worked for

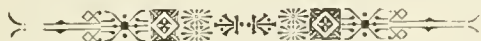
Samuel Gardner, a brother of his former employer, a ship-store dealer, continuing in this employment until eighteen years age, when he set sail from the shores of his native country for America. Landing in New York, his intention was to learn the ship-carpenter's trade and he commenced work immediately for Stack & Patterson, ship-builders of Brooklyn. He soon became dissatisfied with this work, and having some money saved from his previous earnings he concluded to try his fortune farther West, and accordingly came to Oakland County, Mich., afterward going to Saginaw County, when he engaged with James Frazier, a lumberman, and remained with him about two years, or until 1852, when he came to Muskegon and worked as a sawyer with Isaac and Elias Merrill. Continuing four years in their employ, in 1856 he came to Casnovia Township and took charge of Whitney Bros.' Mill. In the mean time he had been looking over the country in Moorland Township with a view to making this his permanent home, and in 1858 purchased from the State of Michigan one hundred and twenty acres of the farm he now occupies, to which he added eighty acres a few years later.

Mr. Robinson became a citizen of the United States in 1856, and was married in 1857 to Miss Anna K. Hoffman, daughter of Felix and Laura Hoffman, the former a native of France and the latter of Germany. They emigrated to America and settled in Ohio, and afterward removed by team to Michigan and settled in Kent County. Mrs. Robinson's uncle, Henry Hoffman, was one of the first settlers of Kent County. Our subject and wife have five children, all living: Francis Henry, born November 11, 1858; Adelaide, October 6, 1860; Ellen, September 8, 1865; Elizabeth, August 8, 1871, and Katharine, March 11, 1876.

Mr. Robinson has been Township Clerk for seven years, School Inspector a number of terms, Supervisor twelve years, and was a member of the House of Representatives of this State, and was on the Board of Review for two years. He has always voted the Republican ticket. In religious belief he is a Universalist. Mr. Robinson offered his services to his country at the commencement of the Civil War, but was not accepted by



reason of disability. He is now in his sixty-fourth year, and after many years of useful labor he contemplates retiring from the farm and the more active duties of life.



**T**HOMAS SOMERSET, a veteran of the Civil War, and a prominent fruit and grain farmer of Crockery Township, Ottawa County, was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, August 16, 1841. He is the son of Charles Somerset, a native of England, who in early life emigrated to America, seeking in this land the fortune he believed it impossible to secure in the country of his birth. In New York he met and married Miss Catherine Kelly, a native of Ireland, and of Scotch-Irish descent.

From New York Mr. Somerset, Sr., removed to Ohio, and afterward went to Wisconsin, sojourning for a time in Milwaukee. In 1818 he came to Grand Haven, becoming one of the first settlers of this place. Throughout his entire active life he followed the calling of a farmer, in which he met with success. His death occurred in Spring Lake Township, at the age of sixty-seven years; his wife passed away in the same township when sixty-six years old. Their son, Thomas, accompanied them from Ohio to Wisconsin, and thence to Michigan, remaining with them until he was twenty-six.

On the 13th of May, 1861, the subject of this sketch enlisted in the defense of the Old Flag, becoming a member of Company I, Third Michigan Infantry, and serving until June, 1864. Among the engagements in which he participated with his regiment were the first battle of Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and he also took part in a number of others. After the battle of Williamsburg he was sent to the hospital at Yorktown, where he remained for one week, going from there to Portsmouth, where he sojourned for two months. He rejoined his company in time to participate in

the second battle of Bull Run. On the day following the battle of Cold Harbor he was discharged at Detroit, and returned to Ottawa County, where he resumed farming operations.

The marriage of Mr. Somerset occurred October 24, 1867, and united him with Miss Catherine C. Miles, who was born in the State of New York, and died February 3, 1893, leaving four children, who, with her husband, mourn her loss. They are, Louise Elizabeth, Alice Mabel, Ada Corinthia and Georgia Eleanor. Two children, Johnnie T. and Ettie May, are deceased. In religious matters, Mrs. Somerset was in her girlhood a member of the Congregational Church, but for fourteen years prior to her demise she was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father and mother of our subject were members of the Episcopal and Catholic Churches respectively; he is liberal in his religious views, and generous in his contributions to the various church and benevolent enterprises.

The farm owned and cultivated by Mr. Somerset consists of three hundred and twenty acres and is located seven miles southeast of Grand Haven, on the banks of Grand River. Since the time of purchasing the property, in 1864, Mr. Somerset has effected a number of valuable improvements upon the place, and thus materially enhanced its estimated worth. In his social affiliations, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being identified with Spring Lake Lodge; he has also taken the first degree in Masonry. His first Presidential ballot was cast for Gen. McClellan, and he has since given his support to the Democracy.



**M**ARTIN VAN DOORNE, a prosperous general agriculturist and horticulturist of Ottawa County, Mich., also actively participates in the management of local public affairs and has as a member of the Board of Review and likewise as Township Treasurer given efficient service to the home community, by whom

he is respected and highly esteemed. Mr. Van Doorne was born in Grand Island, N. Y., and remained in his birthplace until three years of age. With his parents our subject then journeyed to the farther West and located in Grand Haven, where the family only made their temporary home, at the expiration of six months removing to a farm about four miles south of the city. Mr. Van Doorne, reared upon the old homestead, passed his life as does the average farmer boy, always busy assisting in the daily routine of farming labor and attending when he could be spared the nearest district school. After attaining to manhood, he left the farm, and for eight years continuously engaged in the sawmill business and also devoted a portion of his time to his trade of carpenter, in this latter occupation finding ready and profitable employment.

Our subject finally returned to the old homestead, of which he is now the owner. In addition to the sixty original acres Mr. Van Doorne owns an undivided half in the eighty acres which join the sixty on the northwest corner. A thoroughly practical farmer, he has made a financial success of the tilling of the soil, and aside from the pursuit of general agriculture gives much attention of fruit-growing and raises large quantities of celery. Mr. Van Doorne also handles agricultural implements, and with energetic enterprise has won his upward way to a position of influence and usefulness. In 1873 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Ballgoyen, a native of the Netherlands, who passed the early years of her life in the west of Europe, where she received her primary education and remained until thirteen years of age. Her parents, also born, reared and educated in the Netherlands, finally emigrated with their family to America and located in Grand Haven. The pleasant home of our subject and his excellent wife has been blessed by the birth of four children, one son and three daughters: Maria, Minnie, Martin, Jr., and Jeannette.

Maria, the eldest, regularly attended the schools of the neighborhood, and, completing the studies of the grammar course at the age of fifteen, then entered Hope College in Holland, Mich., and took a two-years course, finally completing her

education with a two-years Normal course in the same institution, and is now a successful teacher. The son and the other daughters are enjoying the available opportunities of instruction near their home, and, intelligently devoting themselves to study, have a bright future before them. Politically, Mr. Van Doorne is an adherent of the Democratic party, and for the two years in which as Township Treasurer he disbursed the public funds, and as a valued member of the Board of Review, materially aided in the advancement of needed improvements and encouraged and stimulated the growth of enterprise. Our subject is not a member of any secret society, but is connected by membership with the Reformed Church at Grand Haven and is liberal in the support and extension of religious influence and accounted by all who know him a man of high principle and an efficient and public-spirited citizen.



**J**OHN ROOKS, an enterprising general agriculturist and leading citizen, pleasantly located upon section 36, Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., is a native of the Netherlands, and was born in Wenterswick in 1837. His parents, Gerrit and Catherine (Hesselink) Rooks, also born in the Netherlands, were of a thrifty and industrious ancestry, highly respected among the people where their uneventful and upright lives were passed. The father was born not far from Wenterswick, in the year 1802, the year of his wife's birth being 1809. A farmer by occupation, he tilled the fertile soil of his early home and also worked as a woodsawyer. His parents were poor, and when only a boy he began the work of life, receiving but a limited education in the common schools of his birthplace. He was not the possessor of landed property, but in the Old Country rented land. The sons and daughters of the father, ten in number, were all born in the Netherlands. By a first marriage the father had two children, Henry and Hannah, both deceased.

After the death of the first wife, marrying the mother of our subject, the father gathered about him the large family who later accompanied him to the United States.

Of the eight sons and daughters of the second marriage, the eldest died young, and Albert, Lydia and John are also deceased; the others are Minnie, Gertrude, John and Gerrit. In 1855, with all the family except the daughter Lydia, the father and mother emigrated to America, and after leaving the seaboard had just money enough to get to Michigan, where they at once located upon a forty-acre farm, purchased by the father. Then an old man, he cleared off the dense woods of the homestead, ably assisted by his sturdy sons, who lent a willing hand in the improvement of the home to which they had looked forward for so long. The father, a pious man and devout member of the Reformed Church, survived his journey to the United States only about eight years.

John Rooks had hired out in the Old Country, and soon after arriving in Michigan began for himself by working on farms and in mills; and, carefully hoarding up every dollar while engaged in laboring for others, he was finally enabled to purchase the forty-eight acres where he now lives. This, mostly wild land, he cleared, cultivated and improved, and, prospering through self-reliant industry, added other acres, now owning one hundred and twenty-eight acres, upon which stand excellent and commodious barns and a comfortable and attractive residence.

When twenty-eight years of age our subject was united in marriage with Miss Clara Mulder, daughter of William and Ellie (Skipper) Mulder. Mrs. Rooks, a most estimable lady, was born in the Netherlands in 1844, and was only three years of age when with her parents she emigrated to America and made her home in Holland. Eleven sons and daughters have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rooks. Four died in infancy. The surviving are: William, Gerrit, Albert, Peter, Herman, Leonard and John, the last two now attending Hope College. Albert is a fine student and graduated with honor from Hope College. Gerrit graduated in book-keeping from the business college at Grand Rapids. William is attending a

veterinary school in Canada. Our subject and his worthy wife are valued members of the Seceder Church, and have shown themselves friends to educational advancement by giving to their children every possible opportunity to improve themselves and thus prepare to occupy with honor any work, public or private, to which they may be called. Politically a Republican, Mr. Rooks is interested in both local and national issues and intelligently posted in ail matters tending to the promotion of welfare, and does his full duty as a true and liberal-spirited citizen.



AUGUST M. COSGROVE, the efficient Superintendent of the Grand Haven water works, was born in Ashland, Ashland County, Ohio, February 15, 1855. He is a son of Stephen C. and Hannah (Hiler) Cosgrove, the former of whom was a native of New Jersey and the latter of New York. Stephen C. Cosgrove was a broom-maker by trade, but during the latter part of his life successfully followed the occupation of farming. On the 17th of February, 1877, he died in Crawford County, Ohio, when in the seventy-first year of his age. His widow survived him until September, 1894, when she passed away in Crawford County, Ohio. The paternal grandfather was William Cosgrove.

August M. Cosgrove spent his early life on the home farm in Ohio, where he received such instruction as the locality afforded, entering school at the age of six years. A knowledge of books, however, is not always an education, and in the school of experience one may acquire a much more practical knowledge than he can in the colleges and seminaries, however good the latter may be; and thus it was with Mr. Cosgrove, for all his practical acquirements have been gained since he started out to fight the battle of life for himself. He secured employment in the steam-engine works at Bucyrus, Ohio, but in 1878 left

that place to remove to Adrian, Mich. While employed in the Adrian water works, he acquired a knowledge of the details of the business which eminently fitted him for the successful discharge of the duties of his present position. After residing in Adrian for eight years, he went to Richmond, and was in the employ of a prominent firm there for about one year.

In the fall of 1885, our subject came to Grand Haven, and was appointed Superintendent of the Grand Haven water works, which position he is very acceptably filling at the present time. As a citizen, he is prompt and liberal in responding to the demands of the public, when the common good is brought into question, and he is at all times willing to bear his proportion of the burdens of expenditure and labor needed in attaining the highest material success. He is now in the prime of life, with vigorous constitution, good habits and lofty principles.

November 28, 1878, Mr. Cosgrove was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Ann Smith, of Jasper, Mich., daughter of Frank J. Smith, and to their union two children have been given, a son and a daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Cosgrove are popular in the social circles of Grand Haven, and although they have not resided in the place any great length of time, they have made many friends, whom it is their pleasure to welcome to their comfortable and hospitable home on Franklin Street. Socially, Mr. Cosgrove is a member of the order of the Macabees.



**E** J. AUBRY, master painter and decorator of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad shops, at Muskegon, Mich., has been a continuous resident of his present locality for about eleven years, and during this length of time has given faithful service to the corporation by which he is now employed. Our subject is a native of Canada, and was born in the Dominion February 2, 1853. The parents, J. W. and Margaret (Smith) Aubry, many years after their marriage re-

moved to the United States and, locating in Worcester, Mass., lived there a few months and then returned to their home in Canada. They were known in New England as industrious and energetic people, of upright character and sterling integrity. Mr. Aubry passed the days of early childhood and youth in his birthplace, and not only received his education in the common schools of Canada, but up to sixteen years of age was there reared to habits of self-reliance. In 1871 he went to St. Johnsbury, Vt., and was first employed in the painting department of the Fairbanks Scale Company. In 1877, he entered the employ of the P. & O. Railroad Company, of Vermont, at St. Johnsbury.

After a time, determining to try his fortunes in a newer field of action, our subject in 1882 journeyed to the West, and, locating permanently in Michigan, made his home in Muskegon, where he accepted his present responsible position. Mr. Aubry has full charge and entire control of the Paint Department of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad equipment and attends to repainting and revarnishing the rolling stock. He superintends the work of a number of men skilled in the use of the brush, all expert mechanics. Our subject aside from his regular business has a profession, being a musician of superior ability and culture. He is the first violinist in the Opera House Orchestra and leads the same. The orchestra, organized and controlled by Mr. Aubry, plays at the most elegant balls of the city, also in the operas, and is well and favorably known throughout western Michigan.

In 1880 E. J. Aubry and Miss Hattie M. Magoon, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., and daughter of I. P. Magoon, a citizen of the Green Mountain State, were married. The union of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the birth of one son and one daughter: Mary Gertrude and Herbert M. D. The pleasant family residence is located at No. 57 Peck Street, Muskegon. The son and daughter enjoy excellent educational advantages and as they attain to mature age will be enabled to worthily fit themselves to adorn any position of trust to which they may be called.

Mr. Aubry is politically a Republican and a firm supporter of the party. He has never been anxi-

ous to hold public office, but is intelligently interested in local and national government and is a friend to progress and reform. He is fraternally associated with Lowell Moore Lodge No. 182, A. F. & A. M., and is likewise a member of the Chapter and Commandery. He is a member of the Master Car and Locomotive Painters' Association of the United States and Canada and, thoroughly at home in the details of his business, has prosperously won his upward way, and commands the high respect of a wide acquaintance. His musical abilities have also long been a source of income and in return afford others much pleasure. Combining the two occupations, our subject leads a busy life, but, true to every duty of the hour, has made each profession a success.



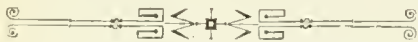
**R**USSELL B. MASON, a leading citizen and practical general farmer residing upon section 23, Holton Township, Muskegon County, Mich., is a native of the State, and was born in Calhoun County in 1840. Our subject is the son of Isaac and Esther (Allen) Mason, early pioneers of the Wolverine State. The paternal grandfather was Brooks Mason, and the paternal grandmother in maidenhood was Miss Editley. The great-grandfather, also Brooks Mason, was the son of Sampson Mason, an Englishman by birth and the first of the family to settle in America. Sampson Mason had been an officer under Oliver Cromwell before. in 1630, he became one of the founders of the settlement of Rehoboth in Massachusetts. His wife, May Butterworth, bore her husband thirteen children. The great-grandfather, Brooks Mason, was a native of Rhode Island, but later removed to Massachusetts, and in 1770 made his permanent home in Ontario County, N. Y. He was the father of eleven children. The grandfather farmed in Ontario County, in which part of the Empire State he settled in 1801. His wife, the daughter of William Clark,

became the mother of seven children, four sons and three daughters. The grandfather and his eldest son actively participated in the War of 1812. A life-long farmer, the grandfather lived and died in the State of New York.

The father, born in Massachusetts November 23, 1798, removed to New York when very young, and, living upon his father's Ontario County farm, enjoyed only the most limited opportunities for an education. Having attained to manhood, he began life for himself and married in the Empire State Miss Caroline Hodges. Unto this union was born one son, James B., killed at Clinch Mountain during the late Civil War. The first wife not long surviving, the father a second time married, then wedding Miss Lucy Baker, who became the mother of two sons, Henry and Edwin, who died while serving in the Mexican War. For a third time entering matrimonial bonds, Isaac Mason married, while a citizen of New York, the mother of our subject, and with his wife soon after emigrated to Calhoun County, Mich., and settling in 1837 in this part of the West made his permanent home within the borders of the State. The parents first settled upon eighty acres of land, and lived thereon a few years, then removing to Kalamazoo, where the mother died, leaving to her husband the care of seven children. Caroline, the eldest, now deceased, married Abel Hoag; Mary is deceased; Jane became the second wife of Abel Hoag; Lee A. was the fourth child; George, a soldier in the Civil War, was killed at Marion, Va.; R. B. is our subject; and Harriet married Otis Signer. Again the father married, his fourth wife being Miss Charlotte Thiers. Isaac Mason was a devout member of the Baptist Church, and politically was an ardent Abolitionist. After a long life of usefulness he passed away, mourned by many friends in Kalamazoo County, in the year 1886.

Our subject received his education in the district schools and studied in Battle Creek. At the age of seventeen, beginning life for himself, he worked on a farm for others until he enlisted, August 8, 1861, then joining Company I, Seventh Michigan Infantry. Serving under Gen. McClellan he participated in the battles of Balls Bluff, Fair

Oaks and Glendale, where during the seven days' fight he was wounded in the right shoulder, which hurt compelled him to go to Washington, where he received his discharge upon November 19, 1862. After his return to Michigan, Mr. Mason was elected Treasurer of the township of Constock, and for many years gave valuable service in that official capacity. In 1867 Mr. Mason accepted a position as night watchman of the State Prison, remaining in Jackson until 1871. For about seventeen succeeding years our subject was engaged on the C. H. M. Railroad at White Cloud and Holton, and during this time bought his present farm of one hundred and five acres, then mostly unimproved, but now containing sixty highly cultivated acres. While in Jackson, Mr. Mason was united in marriage with Miss Emma Welch, daughter of George and Leah (Badams) Welch. Mrs. Mason was born in Jackson County, Mich., but her parents were both natives of England. Politically a strong Republican, our subject has held the office of Township Clerk, and, appointed by Harrison, for over four years efficiently handled the mails at Holton. As a friend and neighbor and in his public work Mr. Mason has won the respect and esteem of a host of friends, and has long been intimately associated with the progressive interests of his home locality.



**H**ORACE A. COOLEY, a representative general agriculturist, successful stock-raiser and Drainage Commissioner of Allendale Township, Ottawa County, is a native of Ohio, but has been a resident of the Wolverine State since 1845, and is intimately associated with its upward growth and progressive history. Born in Knox County, Ohio, August 2, 1829, he was the son of Horatio and Mehetabel (Crowell) Cooley, native New Englanders, but early settlers in the farther West. The father, born in Connecticut, and the mother in Vermont, migrated to Ohio while young, and were married in the Buckeye

State. The father was by occupation a mechanic, and remained in Ohio until his death. His widow removed to Michigan in 1847, and survived him for some years.

The parents were blessed by the birth of nine children, seven of whom lived to adult age. Horatio, the eldest-born, is deceased; Tryphena is the widow of R. S. Randall; Arminta is deceased; Horace A. is our subject; Havillat is deceased; Henry C. is a resident of Ottawa County; and Harriet, who is deceased, was the wife of George Starks. Mrs. Mehetabel Cooley again married, and by her second husband, Benjamin Bellows, became the mother of two children: Sarah, the wife of Sidney Starks; and Thomas E., residing in Sparta, Mich.

Our subject was reared on the Ohio homestead, and attending the district schools of the neighborhood was likewise trained in the agricultural duties devolving upon the farmer boy. He was sixteen years of age when, upon October 28, 1845, he arrived at his new home in Tallmadge Township, Ottawa County, Mich., and, remaining in that locality for thirty-two years, was during twenty-eight years of that period employed by various milling concerns as engineer. For fourteen consecutive years he remained with one firm, his faithful discharge of the work intrusted to his care winning for him the appreciation of those interested in the business. When he became a resident of Tallmadge Township the population of the surrounding country was sparse, and most of the business of that part of the State was transacted at Grand Rapids, then the headquarters for merchandise and all the necessaries of life. The milling interests were the mainstay of Tallmadge Township, and the establishment of numerous sawmills soon caused an influx of people, and gave our subject, with many others, regular and remunerative employment.

In 1861 were united in marriage Horace A. Cooley and Miss Lavilla A. Hall, a native of Michigan and the daughter of Orrin and Matilda (Reynolds) Hall, pioneer settlers of the Wolverine State. Some years subsequent to his marriage, our subject purchased a farm in Allendale Township, which he sold in 1877, and later also disposed of property he owned in the village of La-

mont. He afterward bought his present farm, consisting of forty highly cultivated acres, improved with an attractive residence and substantial barns. The pleasant home of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the birth of seven children: George H.; Carr F., of Duluth; H. Grant, Frank C., Cora S., H. B. and T. W. F. Mr. Cooley is one of the most popular men of the county of Ottawa, and has several times been elected Drainage Commissioner, and is now holding the office. For two years he was Justice of the Peace, and in that position gave universal satisfaction to his fellow-townsmen, among whom he has a host of friends and well-wishers.



**F**REDERICK HINMAN, for the past nineteen years the efficient Marshal of Whitehall, for ten years Deputy Sheriff of Muskegon County, Oil Inspector for a time, and now Superintendent of the water works of the village, has long been identified with the growth and upward progress of his home locality in the State of Michigan. Mr. Hinman is by nativity a New Englander, and was born April 4, 1846, in the State of Connecticut, close to the Berkshire Hills, and not far from the Massachusetts line. Our subject was one of twin children, who were the fifth addition to the family of Hiram and Rebecca (Benson) Hinman. By a previous marriage the father had two children, John and Walter, who both went to Maryland and became prominent citizens of the South. John, now surviving at seventy-three years of age, is a wealthy bachelor, having made a fortune in the mercantile business. Walter likewise achieved a comfortable competence handling merchandise and is in the milling business on Chesapeake Bay, where he now resides.

Of the own brothers and sisters of Mr. Hinman, Herman lives in Whitehall and is now sixty-five years of age. Mary Ann married Charles McElroy, formerly in the furniture business in Whitehall. She and her husband removed to Maryland, where

she died in 1882. Leonard, the next in order of birth, passed away at twenty-three years of age, dying in 1856. Catherine died in 1866, in Troy, N. Y., where her husband, Edwin Baxter, was a leading merchant and lumberman. The twin sister of our subject, Fannie, married Charles Scott, a wagon-maker of New York State, near the Connecticut line, where they now reside. The various children of the parents' family all enjoyed excellent educational advantages, and all taught school in their youthful days, being ambitious, energetic and enterprising.

The family is descended from old Revolutionary stock and hold in their veins the best blood of New England. The father, born in Salisbury, Conn., in February, 1796, was the only surviving son of Benjamin Hinman, a brave soldier of the War for Independence, and likewise a native of Connecticut, but a descendant of English ancestry. The mother, Rebecca Benson, born in Connecticut in 1807, was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier and a woman of exceptional ability and strong character. The father died in 1873, the mother surviving only a twelvemonth, passing away in 1874. Frederick Hinman, having received a superior education, was likewise blessed with an excellent memory, which he retains remarkably, being able to quote with exactness pages from Shakespere and other favorite authors.

At fifteen years of age our subject entered the iron works at Fall Village, Conn., where he remained for some years, and then located in Troy, N. Y., the latter place being his home when the Civil War broke out. Returning to Connecticut, he enlisted in the old Second Connecticut Regiment, and, immediately forwarded to the front, participated in the first battle of Bull Run. He served out his period of enlistment and returned to his Eastern home. In 1865 our subject came to Michigan and was employed on a Government tug boat as an engineer, making the improvements at the mouth of White Lake. Mr. Hinman assisted in the construction of the harbor and continued in the service until 1874, when he resigned to become Marshal and engineer in the fire department of Whitehall, in which former capacity he has for nearly a score of years been a terror to the

rougher element of the village and the evil-doers generally. As Deputy Sheriff, Oil Inspector and Superintendent of the water works, he has proven his thorough adaptability to the demands of public work.

In the year 1868 Mr. Hinman was married to Miss Mary Storms, who came from her native land, Germany, to this country with her parents when only eight years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Hinman have been blessed by the birth of five children: Herman, who died in the year 1869, in infancy; Cora, born in 1871, a graduate of the High School and married in 1890 to Dr. James G. Jackson, of Muskegon; Frederick, born in 1874, also a graduate of the High School, and a promising young man; Fannie, aged thirteen, a bright scholar, now in school; and Albert, the youngest, a lad eight years old. Financially prospered and a lifelong Republican, giving most valuable public service and ever a liberal-spirited citizen, our subject is also fraternally associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and is likewise a member of the Knights of Honor.



**T**HOMAS LARSON, a well-known resident of Whitehall, Muskegon County, was for many years engaged in business in this place, and at the present time owns fully fifteen acres of land in the village. His life has been quite an eventful one, and since his tenth year he has made his own living. He was born in north-western Norway, March 18, 1818. His parents were Lars and Malinda (Larson) Larson. The former was reared on a farm and owned a valuable piece of property, comprising eighty acres. He was prosperous in business and was highly regarded in all circles. He and his wife were devoted members of the Lutheran Church. They reared a family of five sons: Lars, Lars, Archa, Thomas, and Daniel, who was drowned when about twenty-five years old. Lars is the only one of the family

beside our subject who has left his native land, and his home is now near Ottawa, Ill. The parents of these children have long since been called to the better land.

Thomas Larson was only ten years old when he left home and went to work on neighboring farms, receiving his board and clothes and \$5 in money per year for the succeeding five years. Tiring of this occupation, at length he embarked on sailing expeditions to the many beautiful fiords of his native land, and finally, when eighteen years of age, regularly embarked as a sailor on the high seas. For twenty years he followed this life, going to all parts of the world and meeting with many strange adventures. He was once shipwrecked near his old home and on another occasion was washed overboard by a great wave, which, returning, left him in another part of the ship. At last Mr. Larson came to the United States and made his headquarters in Chicago, from which place he sailed on the Lakes for five years.

After carefully deliberating, Mr. Larson concluded to settle down at Whitehall and invest the money, which was the result of his many years of toil. He became the owner of three houses, and afterward bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, a portion of which is located within the corporate limits of the village. For some years he ran a saloon, and later embarked in the grocery business. His business ventures have been marked by sagacity and ability, and he now has a competency which places him among the substantial citizens of the community.

After taking up his residence in Whitehall, Mr. Larson married Miss Gertie Johnson, who was born in Norway and with her parents, James and Bertha (Nelson) Johnson, came to the United States in July, 1863, and at once settled in this city. The parents of Mrs. Larson resided until their death in Whitehall. Seven children have been born to our worthy subject and his wife: Bertha, who became the wife of Hans Bjornstad; James L.; Hannah M., wife of Charles Kassner; John S.; Thomas J.; Minnie B., a graduate of the High School; and Anetta L. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church, in the faith of which all of the children have been confirmed. Mr. Larson



has served as a Trustee of the church and with his family is numbered among the active workers. His varied experiences in all parts of the world have made him a man of wide information and he is a most interesting conversationalist. To him is largely due the prosperity of Whitehall, for he has been one of the most active promoters of its welfare.



**E**DWARD E. BARTHOLOMEW. Prominent among the enterprises at Ravenna is the hardware store of which the subject of this sketch is the genial proprietor. It contains a large and well-assorted stock of hardware, tinware, stoves, farmers' tools and agricultural implements, and as the quality of the stock is unexcelled and prices reasonable, the establishment is one of the most popular in the city. In the conduct of his business enterprises Mr. Bartholomew uses tact, discretion, sound common-sense and wise judgment, and the result is that he has gained success.

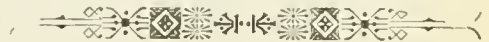
In reviewing the history of our subject, we find that he is the son of Arza and Isabel (Hunter) Bartholomew, the former of whom was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., on the 1st of August, 1805. He had only such advantages as were afforded by the public schools of that day, and in his youth his attention was devoted principally to working at the trade of a carpenter and millwright. Upon coming to Michigan in 1845 he stayed about one year in Calhoun County, and then he settled in Ottawa County and there worked at his trade for a time, but afterward purchased farming property and engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1868.

The family of Arza and Isabel Bartholomew consisted of eleven children, of whom our subject was the eighth in order of birth. He was born in Ottawa County, Mich., January 24, 1851, and obtained his education in the common schools of his native county. His time was devoted principally

to the work of farming, and he remained with his father until the age of twenty-four years, when he commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter, serving an apprenticeship of five years. Later he entered the store of Perham & Adsit, of Nuniea, Mich., as clerk, and continued with that firm for a period of four years. He then went to Muskegon and worked for one year at his trade, next coming to Ravenna, in 1882.

After locating at this place, Mr. Bartholomew was for four years in the employ of Conklin Bros., after which he embarked in the gristmill business with W. H. Smith. After continuing thus engaged for three and one-half years, he purchased a hardware store and embarked in that business. He has since conducted a large and profitable business, not only with the people of Ravenna, but also with the farmers of the surrounding country. Socially, he is a member of Ravenna Lodge No. 355, I. O. O. F., and has attained the Scarlet degree, and passed all the chairs of the lodge. He is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees at Ravenna, and is Commander of the post here.

On Christmas Day, 1874, Mr. Bartholomew was united in marriage with Miss Hattie, daughter of Robert and Eveline (Hancock) Woolsey, and one son has been born of this union, Windsor, a manly youth, who is receiving every literary and social advantage. In his politics Mr. Bartholomew is a Republican, and has always voted for the candidates of that party. He has held the office of Township clerk for five years and is still serving in that position.



**H**ORACE B. ATWOOD. A glance at the lives of the representative men whose names appear in this volume will reveal many sketches of honored and influential citizens who have resided many years in this county, but among them none are more worthy or deserving of mention than Mr. Atwood, who is a

true type of a successful Michigan farmer. He is a product of the Buckeye State, born September 30, 1840, and the son of Morris and Phoebe A. (Archer) Atwood, natives of New York. The Atwood family came originally from England and settled in the United States a short time after the Revolutionary War. The Archers came from Germany.

Morris Atwood was a blacksmith by trade, and after reaching mature years moved to Ohio. Later he returned to his native State, and there died in 1872, at the age of sixty-five. His wife died in the Empire State in 1891. They were the parents of the following children: Horace, our subject; Elizabeth, the wife of J. W. Pearson; David, deceased, who left a family in New York; Ann; Frances, Mrs. Broth, of New York; Corella, the wife of a Mr. Reynolds, of New York; Rose, the wife of Lou Darbey; and John D., of New York.

Horace Atwood received only a limited education in the common schools of Ohio and New York, and at the youthful age of fourteen started out to fight his own way in life. He left the parental roof and sailed on the bark "Columbus," of Fair Haven, Mass., as a sailor. He went to some of the islands off Brazil, and after being before the mast for one year, and touching at Java, and other places, landed in Australia, where he remained for some time in the Swan River Colony. While there he engaged in whaling for two seasons, and received for his services \$7.50 per month. After leaving that place he went to Hobart Town, Tasmania, and remained there in all about two years. While there he visited the Philippine Islands and made five trips to the Island of Mauritius, where he was engaged in the sugar trade. From there he went to Valparaiso, Chili, and was engaged in the employ of Chilian merchants at the copper ports. While in Chili he walked from Valparaiso to Tucumana, a distance of over two hundred miles, without any company. His only experience during that time was when his coat and cap of blue cloth were stolen by a peon, who kindly left his own in their place.

For about eighteen months Mr. Atwood remained in Chili, and then went to Callao, Peru,

where he also engaged in different work for six months. After this, for six or seven months, he worked the nitre beds, and then went to Liverpool, England, where he hired to go on a merchant vessel and took two trips to southern Spain, on the Mediterranean Sea, making about forty ports. Later he sailed to Calcutta, India, the island of Colombo, Seon and to Marseilles, France, also to various other ports, and then returned to Liverpool. From there he sailed to Sidney, Australia, and later from London to Liverpool, carrying a cargo of tea. Afterward he sailed to Quebec, Canada, but returned to Liverpool, thence going to the East Indies, and back to Liverpool, where he shipped for the west coast of Africa on the Senegambia River, and touched many points in that country. Returning to Liverpool, he shipped for New York, but the vessel sprang a leak and sank twelve hundred miles west of Cape Clear, about four p. m. The crew was picked up about nine a. m. next day by a steamer and carried back to Liverpool, where our subject remained for one month. He shipped again for New York, and arrived in that city in May, 1865, after having been absent from home eleven years. During that time he had heard from home but once, and his relatives had heard from him but once.

After returning home, he was engaged in tilling the soil on a farm in the Empire State, but shortly afterward returned to Ohio and worked for the Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati Railroad for two years. In 1866 he came to Michigan and was engaged in lumbering and other occupations from that date until 1874, when he moved on his present farm of eighty acres. He now has thirty acres under cultivation, and is one of the prosperous and substantial agriculturists of his section. He has served as Highway and Drain Commissioner from 1878, except about five years, and also has served as School Director for three years, holding that position at the present time. In the year 1873 he was married, in September, to Miss Helen Orton, a native of New York and daughter of Arcelus and Mariah (Cressett) Orton. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Orton, those living being: Helen; Clara, the wife of Angus McDonald; Alice, the wife of Alexander Me-

Donald; Lena, the wife of Ellis W. Lang; and Kate, wife of Frank Taylor. Mr. Orton died September 11, 1860, and in September, 1863, Mrs. Orton married William Lowing. They now reside in Georgetown Township. Mr. and Mrs. Lowing have one living child, Edgar. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have been the parents of six children: Morris; Vesta and Ruby, deceased; Lena, Allie and Frank. Politically, Mr. Atwood is a Democrat, and socially he is a Mason, a member of Crescent Lodge No. 322. In 1865 he shipped from Liverpool on the "Great Eastern" with troops for Quebec, Canada.



**K**ASPER LAHUIS. During the forty-six years that have passed over the head of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch since his locating in the United States, he has witnessed many changes in the country, and has not been merely a "looker on in Venice," but a citizen who has through his enterprise, his integrity and his perseverance, contributed his full share to the development of the section in which he resides, which is one of the most magnificent in the State. He was born in Hanover, Germany, September 14, 1828, a son of Berrend and Geesje (Beld) Lahuis, who were also born in Hanover in 1792 and 1793, respectively.

The youthful days of Berrend Lahuis were spent on a farm which belonged to his father, but he also learned the trade of a carpenter, and these two occupations he continued to follow throughout life, becoming the owner of a small tract of land. He and his wife reared a family of four children: Hermanes, who still resides in the Old Country; Aaltje, deceased; Triute, a resident of Allegan County, Mich.; and Kasper, the subject of this sketch. Berrend Lahuis was a man of deep religious nature, and was an Elder in the Reformed Church at the time of his death, which occurred in 1863. His widow survived him until 1879.

Kasper Lahuis received better educational ad-

vantages than the average boy of his day, and being an intelligent youth he made rapid progress in his studies. When not employed in pursuing the paths of learning, he learned the carpenter's trade of his father, at which occupation he labored in his native land until his removal to the United States in 1847. He came alone to Ottawa County, Mich., and took up his residence at New Groningen, and here he was united in marriage with Miss Fennigje Kamps, a daughter of John and Hilligje Kamps, all of whom were born in the Netherlands. After following his trade for some time, he purchased a forty-acre tract of land, which was totally unimproved, and to this small purchase he has added until he now is the owner of a fine farm comprising two hundred and ten acres, nearly all of which was in a wild state at the time of his purchase. With the aid of his sons he has cleared and improved this land, and in his long and arduous labors he found a true helpmate in his kind, energetic and hard-working wife.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lahuis ten children were born, who are in order of birth as follows: Geesje, Mrs. Joseph Baareman; John, a resident of this county; Berrend, who resides on a farm; Albert, who resides in Zeeland; Hannah, the wife of Henry Reif, of Chicago, Ill.; Gerrit; Fannie, the wife of John De Pree, of Zeeland; Kasper, Jr., and two who died young unnamed. Kasper, Jr., the youngest son, attended Hope College, and after teaching school for four years began the study of medicine in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he has been for one year; John, Berrend, Hannah and Albert also received their educations at Hope College, the latter finishing his education in the State Normal School at Ypsilanti, and upon graduating received a State certificate to teach.

Mr. Lahuis deserves great credit for the way in which he has surmounted the difficulties which have strewn his pathway, and also for having given his children good educational opportunities. He has ever been a wide-awake man of affairs, industrious, pushing, enterprising and law-abiding, and the liberal means which he is now enjoying have been acquired by his own good

management. He and his wife are members of the Reformed Church of Zeeland, in which he has held office for the past twenty-five years. He has been Highway and Drainage Commissioner of his township, and politically he is a staunch Prohibitionist.



**S**AMUEL R. SANFORD, one of the honored pioneers of Muskegon County, and a prominent and progressive business man of the city of Muskegon, was born in Wayne County, N. Y., August 11, 1822, and is a son of Isaac R. Sanford, a native of Connecticut. His paternal grandfather, Abel Sanford, was born in Wallingford, Conn., and was of English descent. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Patience Atwater, and was also born in the Nutmeg State.

The early boyhood of our subject was spent in attendance at the district schools during the winter season and in farm work during the summer months. Later he prosecuted his studies in the Geneva Lyceum and Lyra Methodist Episcopal Seminary. Previous to this, he was engaged in clerking in a dry-goods store in Palmyra, N. Y., and afterward in a wholesale and retail drug and grocery house at Geneva, N. Y., remaining thus occupied until 1844, when he migrated to Michigan. Locating in Grand Rapids, he opened the first drug store in that place. He secured a good trade and successfully carried on business until the fall of 1848, when he disposed of the store. His next enterprise was the building of a double steam sawmill sixteen miles up the river from Muskegon, and in 1856 he came to this city, where he has since made his home.

For a time Mr. Sanford engaged exclusively in the manufacture and shipping of lumber, and afterward gave his attention to the lumber business in one or another of its branches. For some time he has been extensively engaged in the manufacture of shingles. In his undertakings he has met

with success, and acquired a handsome competence. He dealt largely in real estate and has been connected with many leading enterprises of the community, having been one of the organizers of the Muskegon National Bank and a Director in the first two railroad companies entering the city, also aiding in the inception of other important concerns.

On the 1st of October, 1844, Mr. Sanford was united in marriage with Miss Susan S. Huggins, a native of Wayne County, N. Y., and a daughter of Zadok Huggins. She died July 18, 1855, leaving two children: I. Ransom, now a resident of Muskegon; and Anna M., wife of Harvey Chatten, an architect of Quincy, Ill. The second marriage of Mr. Sanford took place July 7, 1858, his wife being Miss Ambrosia Peck, of Gorham, Ontario County, N. Y. Her father, Samuel B. Peck, was for many years a merchant of Gorham, but removed to Muskegon in 1859. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sanford, Arthur H. and Nellie S.

In the fall of 1846 Mr. Sanford was elected Clerk of Kent County on the Democratic ticket, and filled that position until the fall of 1848, that being the time of his removal from the city. In 1858 he was elected Sheriff of Ottawa County, which at that time comprised the counties of Muskegon and Ottawa, but during his term of service the present division was made, and he removed to Grand Haven temporarily in order to complete his term. In the performance of the duties of this office he always traveled on foot, unless having a prisoner in charge, and under no circumstances ever carried a weapon of defense. As a "walkist" he was for many years unrivaled. In public office he has always been found true to the trust reposed in him, and has discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity. In business life he has always been honorable and straightforward, and has therefore gained universal confidence. In his social and home life, he is an affable and pleasant gentleman, generous and kind-hearted, and his many excellencies of character have gained for him a wide circle of warm friends.

Although reared in accordance with the tenets

of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he never accepted its creed, nor affiliated as a member with any religious denomination, but has been liberal in his benefactions to all the churches of the city of his home. In 1885, however, the spiritual philosophy, with its liberality of thought and its accompanying phenomena, so strongly presented itself to his hitherto unsatisfied mind, that he espoused that cause and is to-day its firm believer and stanch advocate. His life has been worthily spent, and his character is a noble one. The history of this community would be incomplete without his sketch, and we gladly present this record of his life work to our readers.



**G**VREDEVELD, a prominent general agriculturist and fruit-grower, located upon section 36, Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., takes a leading place in local matters of progress, and for about twelve years has been an efficient member of the School Board. Born in the province of Vraut, in the Netherlands, in 1836, our subject was the son of Albert and Anna (Hastings) Vredevelt, both natives of the Netherlands, and honest, upright and industrious people, born of a sturdy and thrifty race. The father, a native of the same locality as our subject, was born in 1795, and, in youth possessing but limited opportunities of education, early began the round of agricultural duty, devoting the work of his life to farming; and although a man of but little capital, he owned a small tract of fertile land in the Netherlands. He dutifully remained with his parents until his marriage, when, having faithfully assisted his father and mother, he and his good wife began life for themselves. At this period of his career the father was a young man twenty-five years of age, full of courage and determination to win his way in the world. The union of the parents was blessed by the birth of seven children, all born in the Old Country. Grace married John Venzalrau; Lucus was the second in order of birth; Henry is

deceased; Gertrude married Roluf Myrinck; and Bartlet, our subject and Albert (deceased) completed the list of sons and daughters who gathered in the old home.

In 1847, the father and mother and their seven children, with some of their household goods, set sail for the United States, and crossing the sea arrived safely at their destination. A brief time after they were located in Buffalo, where they remained for a twelvemonth. The family, who were fifty-two days on their way from Europe to America, have yet a vivid remembrance of the long voyage upon the sailing-vessel, which, experiencing no storm, yet took almost two months for the passage. When the father landed with his wife and children in this hospitable land, he had but \$4 in money, and he earned his living by working on a canal, doing teaming principally. At the close of the first year the family removed farther West, settling in Allegan County, Mich., where the father entered eighty acres of land in the northwestern part of the county, and with diligence and patient toil cultivated the soil, improved the acres with substantial buildings and made that homestead his permanent abiding-place until his death, in December, 1870. He had buried his wife, the mother of our subject, about six months after arriving in the United States. The father was a sincere Christian man, a devout member and for many years a valued Elder of the Reformed Church.

Our subject, remaining with his father until twenty-one years of age, obtained his primary education in the Netherlands, and afterward attended the public schools of Buffalo and Michigan. He was, however, only about eleven years of age when he began working by the month at farm work, and in 1862 was employed by the Government of the United States in making roads in Missouri through which the army would afterward pass. Continuing in this employment about eight months, our subject then obtained other work.

At the age of thirty Mr. Vredevelt was united in marriage with Miss Henrietta Huskin. Unto our subject and his estimable wife have been born four children: Anna; Henry; Jennie, wife of Rix Wigman; and Ella. Before marriage our sub-

ject had purchased fifty acres of good land, which he has since brought up to a high state of cultivation, upon eight acres raising a fine quality of fruits and berries. The land when bought was heavily timbered and much hard work was required to bring the acres up to their present productiveness. Mr. Vredeveld is, like his father, in religious connection a member of the Reformed Church, and politically affiliates with the Republicans. He has ably transacted the duties of Pathmaster, and has done excellent public service upon the School Board, and enjoys the hearty best wishes and kind regard of many friends.



**J**OHAN C. LEWIS, a financier of acknowledged ability, and the President of the First National Bank of Traverse City, Mich., also one of the largest dealers in lumber and pine land in the Wolverine State, is one of the old-time mill-owners of Whitehall, Muskegon County. He was born on the Ottawa River, in Canada, February 26, 1837, and was the second child of John and Maria Lewis, long-time residents of the Dominion. The father, born in Louisiana in 1809, was a son of a soldier in the War of 1812, and when only a lad went to Canada. Literally making his way through the wilderness, he was obliged to carry his provisions on his back from the nearest trading-post, a distance of eighteen miles. He died in that locality in 1846, at the early age of thirty-seven.

The mother, a native of Ireland, emigrated to Canada when about fifteen years of age, and survived her husband for one year, passing away in 1818, when John was only ten years old. The family was then scattered and he was cared for by an uncle, Cornelius C., with whom he remained until seventeen years of age. He spent the intervening time mostly in a round of agricultural toil, his opportunities for an education being very limited and confined mainly to brief schooling in the winter months.

Immediately after leaving the home of his uncle, Mr. Lewis passed a year working on a construction train on the Grand Trunk Railroad. In 1855 he came to the United States, determined to try his fortunes in a republic. For five succeeding years, without capital or influence, he struggled slowly upward. For three years he was employed by J. H. Williams, one of the largest lumbermen in the State of New York. Mr. Lewis assisted in operating a mill, and during the time mastered the details of the business. In 1858 he journeyed to Minnesota, and with the little money he had carefully saved opened a small store at Lakeland, on the St. Croix. As this was immediately after the panic of 1857, there was literally no money in the country, and the venture was unsuccessful. Having thus lost a good part of the small capital amassed with sacrifice and hard work, Mr. Lewis, with unflinching courage, began again. He next turned his attention to the South, and went first to New Orleans, and thence to Memphis, Tenn., and operated a mill in that locality in the winter of 1859. In the summer of 1860 he operated a circular saw for that great lumberman, Chauncey Lamb, at Clinton, Iowa.

In the winter of 1860 Mr. Lewis again located in Memphis, Tenn., and later operated a small sawmill across the river in Arkansas, fifteen miles from Memphis. He remained there until the breaking out of the Civil War and the fall of Ft. Sumter, when he, in common with many others, left all he possessed with but one aim in view—to reach at once the more congenial North. Mr. Lewis next journeyed to Clinton, Iowa, and in December, 1861, came to Muskegon, soon afterward settling in what is now Whitehall. He had saved \$1,300 in money, aside from his investments, and this amount he at once put into a farm, which its discouraged owner offered at any price, so that he could get out of the country.

Once more beginning at the foot of the ladder, Mr. Lewis received employment as a day laborer in the lumber camps, and in 1862 and 1863 he ran a circular saw for the late A. J. Covell, and in 1864 for W. M. Weston. Later he bought the mill from Mr. Weston and then made some money. In 1865 he sold out to Lyman Covell, and about the same

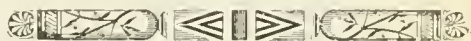
time sold his farm for \$525. He then built the mill owned by M. B. & C. B. Covell, in company with other parties. Later A. J. Covell became his partner, and at last Fortune smiled on our subject and he rapidly made money. He operated this mill until 1875, when his failing health obliged him to sell out. Locating in Waukesha, Wis., he remained there for three years.

A man of superior business ability and thoroughly informed regarding values, Mr. Lewis during this time purchased large tracts of pine lands in Wisconsin and Michigan, and also owning an extensive piece of land in Mississippi has been a heavy dealer in pine lands and lumber. He is likewise one of the prominent capitalists and money-loaners in his part of the State, and for seventeen years was connected with the bank of Whitehall as Director and Vice-President. In 1885 he established the First National Bank of Traverse City and has remained its President continuously. He also loaned large sums of money to private parties in Traverse, as well as in Whitehall and other places, and is now one of the wealthiest men in this part of Michigan, his course from the early '60s having been upward and onward. Self-reliantly and with true courage he has won his way to a position of honor and influence, his financial ability and integrity of character receiving recognition from all who knew him.

In July, 1865, were united in marriage John C. Lewis and Miss Augusta Covell, a sister of A. J., Lyman, M. B. and C. E. Covell, the wealthy lumbermen of Whitehall. Three daughters have blessed the home of Mr. Lewis and his accomplished wife. Lizzie M., a charming young lady, is a skilled musician, being a superior vocalist and instrumentalist. She spent three years under Prof. Hahn, of the Detroit Conservatory of Music, from which institution she was graduated. She then perfected herself in her vocal studies under the instruction of the renowned teacher, Mrs. Dexter. She is now the wife of William MacArthur, proprietor of a large flouring-mill at Cheboygan, Mich. Nettie E., now a student at Oberlin College, is pursuing her literary studies with great success; Florence M. has not yet entered upon the higher branches of education.

Mr. Lewis has supplemented the limited instruction he received in childhood by close observation and a wide range of reading, and is one of the best-informed men on practical subjects in Muskegon County. A shrewd and far-seeing man, the adversities of early life trained him to realize and embrace with clear judgment the later opportunities which were the stepping-stones to his ultimate success. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are valued members of the Congregational Church and are active aids in religious work and enterprise. The beautiful home, one of the finest in the locality, is the scene of many pleasant social reunions, and although his extensive business interests frequently require the absence of Mr. Lewis, he hastens his return to one of the most attractive spots on earth to him.

Politically a lifelong Republican, he has served his fellow-townsmen with efficiency as Supervisor, and has also as a member of the School Board for the past twelve years materially advanced the cause of education. Fraternally, he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a valued member of the home lodge. Practically a self-made man, he has in his enviable career gained both friends and money, and enjoys the sincere confidence of a wide circle of old-time friends and neighbors.



PETER PETERSON, who for many years was numbered among the leading farmers and enterprising citizens of Dalton Township, Muskegon County, was born in the southern part of Sweden February 16, 1835, and was the eldest in a family of three children. Olie became a resident of Minnesota, and one sister never left her native land. The father of this family was a miller by trade and became quite well-to-do, but by mismanagement lost the greater part of his property in later life.

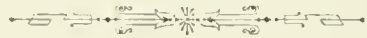
Our subject spent the days of his boyhood under the parental roof, remaining at home until

nineteen years of age, when he bade good-bye to home and friends and sailed alone for the New World. He had heard much of its privileges and opportunities and resolved to try his fortune in the land of promise. On reaching New York, he at once came to Muskegon County, Mich., where he arrived with very limited means, and in order to provide for his support he began working in the lumber woods with Mr. Knudson, of Montague. He remained with that gentleman for about a year, living very economically and carefully, and at length with his hard-earned savings was enabled to purchase a small tract of timberland on White Lake, and he then began lumbering on his own property. He came to the farm which is now the home of his widow in 1865, purchasing quite a large tract, nearly three hundred acres. It was a perfect wilderness, being covered with a dense growth of timber, and in order to reach the place Mr. Peterson had to cut the roads through, as there were none opened at the time.

The labors of our subject were interrupted in 1862, when, prompted by patriotic impulses, he went to the aid of his adopted country, enlisting as a member of Company F, Fifth Michigan Cavalry. He continued in the service for fourteen months, when, on account of physical disability, he was honorably discharged. He then returned to his home and family. He had been married in Muskegon County in 1857, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Michelson, daughter of Lars and Mary (Lawson) Michelson. The lady was born in the northern part of Sweden, and when a maiden of nineteen summers crossed the briny deep to America, joining her parents, who had emigrated to the New World a number of years previous. Five children graced their union, but three died in early life and only two are now living: John, a resident of Minnesota; and William, who operates the home farm for his mother. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a most estimable lady, who has many friends throughout this community.

In his social relations, Mr. Peterson was connected with the Odd Fellows' society of Muskegon, and was also a member of the Grand Army post at that place. In politics, he was a staunch Re-

publican, and always supported the men and measures of that party. He held a number of local offices, the duties of which were promptly and faithfully performed. He passed away in July, 1890, and in his death the family lost a loving husband and father, his neighbors a faithful friend and the community one of its best citizens. He lived a quiet, unassuming life, but true worth and excellencies of character gained for him high regard.



**J**OHAN A. WILTERDINK, a practical general agriculturist and well-known citizen, is pleasantly located upon section 34, Holland Township, Ottawa County, and has for many years been intimately identified with the progressive interests of his home locality. Mr. Wilterdink was born in the Netherlands in 1839 and was the son of John A. and Minnie (Wilterdink) Wilterdink, the parents being very distant relatives. The father, born in 1802, and the mother in 1808, were natives of the near vicinity of the birthplace of our subject. The paternal grandparents were in poor circumstances, and the father began when a boy to make his own way in the world. He learned through a long apprenticeship the trade of a wagon-maker, and after his marriage cultivated a rented farm and also worked at his trade. In 1816, the father with his family embarked for the United States upon a sailing-vessel, the "William Tell," which ran on a rock and was wrecked. All were picked up and saved by other vessels. The Wilterdinks, who had expected to make the port of Baltimore, were landed after ninety days in Florida. They then proceeded directly to St. Louis and lived there a few months, but in May, 1817, arrived at the old Indian village west of where Holland now stands. They lived with the Indians three weeks before they got their cabin built.

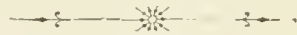
The father entered forty acres of Government land on section 34, Holland Township, all timber, which he cleared, cultivating the soil with the



help of his sons. His good wife passed away in 1857, and since then, living with his eldest son, the father, now very feeble, has reached ninety-one years of age. Seven children gathered in the old home, but four died before reaching nine years of age. The three surviving are: Gertrude, the wife of Richard Takken; John W., and John A., our subject. Mr. Wilterdink, beginning life for himself, enlisted in August, 1862, in Company I, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, and, engaged with the Army of the Cumberland, fought at Tibbs' Bend, Ky., where two hundred Union men defeated Morgan with his three thousand strong. Our subject likewise actively participated in the following engagements: Knoxville, Kingston, Mossy Creek, Rocky Face, Resaca, Dallas (Ga.), Altoona, Culp's Farm, Lost Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Nickajack Creek, Stony Creek, Decatur, Atlanta, Jonesborough, Duck River and Nashville. Aside from these decisive battles, Mr. Wilterdink took an active part in numerous hot skirmishes, and was wounded at Resaca by a shell striking him on the left side near the heart. He was also sunstruck at Altoona, Ga., but never went to the hospital, being merely carried from the field in an ambulance. He was never captured nor absent for any cause from his regiment. Receiving his discharge in North Carolina, he was mustered out of the service June 15, 1865, in Jackson, Mich.

Soon after his return to his home, our subject purchased the forty acres where he now resides, and owns at present seventy acres, fifty of which are under high cultivation, the homestead containing excellent and commodious buildings. In 1868, were united in marriage John A. Wilterdink and Miss Lemmie Visscher, daughter of Evert and Martha Visscher, natives of the Netherlands, where likewise Mrs. Wilterdink was born, emigrating to the United States with her parents when only four years of age. Our subject and his estimable wife were blessed by the birth of five children: Annie M.; Martha M., who died when twelve years of age; Minnie, Albert E. and Eddie. Mr. and Mrs. Wilterdink are valued members of the Reformed Church at Holland, of which our subject has been an Elder for

twenty-four years. Politically a Republican, and ever taking a deep interest in matters of mutual welfare, he has been an efficient School Director for fifteen years, and has in various ways materially aided in educational advancement. Among his war reminiscences Mr. Wilterdink recalls that, in 1863, he marched barefoot in November and December. He has as a valuable trophy of his first battle a revolver, which he took from a rebel officer. Those days of strife, now in the distant past, were rich in deeds of heroism; to-day, with peace brooding over the land, our subject is as in those days a devoted American citizen, true and loyal. Although not relating directly to the history of Mr. Wilterdink, a terrible catastrophe which overtook his relatives may be of interest to many. His uncle, Hiram Wilterdink, and his maternal grandmother and two of her sons, the wife of one and six children perished on board a burning boat on Lake Michigan, on their way to their home in the United States.



**A**LFRED ALLEN, the leading druggist and an enterprising citizen of Montague, Muskegon County, for three years held under President Harrison the official position of Collector of the port of Montague, but now devotes his entire time to the demands of a large and rapidly increasing business. Our subject was born in the city of Cork, Ireland, May 1, 1849, and was the ninth in the family of sixteen children who blessed the home of Benjamin and Patience (Humphreys) Allen. The father was born not far from Belfast, but the paternal grandfather was a genuine Scotch Highlander, a descendant of one of the most illustrious families of "bonnie Scotia." The grandfather early in life removed from his native land to Ireland, and changed the spelling of his name from Allan to Allen, which was a mistake, and has prevented the heirs to a large property bequeathed to the Allans from receiving their share, as it has been difficult to prove to the

satisfaction of the court in chancery that the William Allen of Ireland and the William Allan of Scotland were one and the same person. Benjamin Allen was a man of liberal education, and, possessing superior business attainments, became a large paper manufacturer, ranking as the most extensive in his line of trade in the Emerald Isle. He owned and operated three large mills—one at Dripsly, one at Tower Mills and the other at Girth. In these three mills he employed more than eight hundred hands, and in the business made a fortune, but in 1860, when the free-trade law went into effect, allowing the untaxed importation of foreign paper, it made a bankrupt of him, closed his mills and rendered him temporarily insane.

The father after his reverses recovered his reason but never his fortune, and while he had sufficient to keep him in his last days, he died in 1883, at the age of sixty-seven, a comparatively poor man. He had been a life-long believer in the Quaker faith, and, a sincere Christian of high principle, was a noted temperance worker, and many a time stood upon a platform side by side with that distinguished orator and temperance lecturer, Father Mathew, the great Irish temperance advocate. The father was a man of generous heart and liberal hand, and during his days of prosperity the poor of the country found in him a faithful friend. While Ireland was suffering with the dread famine, Benjamin Allen would take his carriage and drive through the parish and, gathering together the most destitute, would remove them to the tenements on his large estate and there care for them tenderly. He had one brother and three sisters. The brother, William, early in life went to Australia, where for the past thirty-five years he has been a member of Parliament. Joseph also made his home in Australia, and became a prominent mining engineer. John settled in the Philippine Islands, and was one of the most extensive planters in the islands. He married a Spanish lady of great culture and beauty, and a piece of her wedding dress, made of the fine fibre of the pineapple, a most costly fabric, is now in the possession of a daughter of our subject. John, his wife and children all died at Manila

with the yellow fever. The sister (aunt of our subject) married Mr. Green, one of the largest merchants of Newry, County of Down, where she died about 1878.

Patience Humphreys, the mother of Alfred Allen, was the daughter of Prof. John Dobbs Humphreys, born July 20, 1764, an Englishman by descent, but whether born in England or Ireland we do not positively know. He was a man of learning, and force of character and possessed great physical endurance. He occupied with honor positions of distinction, and was President of the Royal Cuvierian Society, and Professor in Queen's College at Cork, and Librarian of the Royal Cork Institute. For half a century he successfully conducted a private college, and, an author of much note in his day, published several volumes of his own poetry, which for their elegant diction and style of composition attracted much favorable criticism and insured him a wide circle of readers. The Professor was never sick a day in his life until attacked by his mortal illness. He expired July 18, 1861, within two days of his one hundredth birthday. He left to posterity the largest and finest conchological collection in the United Kingdom, and which, purchased after his death by an English admirer, was presented to the Royal Cork Institute, with which he had so long been connected.

The mother of Alfred Allen passed away at the age of forty-eight years, and of her large family of sixteen children, several died in infancy. William Allen was a successful hardware merchant of Ireland, and died at the age of twenty-four; Mary married William Kemp, of London, England, where Mr. Kemp is the manager of a large insurance company. John Humphreys Allen is a wealthy druggist of New York City, and the proprietor of Allen's Brain Food. Charlotte Elizabeth Allen married Daniel McAdams, of the firm of McAdams & Cartwright, elevator manufacturers, of New York City. Charles Herbert Allen represents a large English merchantile house in Australia and the East Indies. Ann Maria Allen is the wife of a prosperous hardware merchant in London, England. Josephine is single and lives in Dublin, Ireland.

Our subject was educated in the Quaker schools of his native land, but after the failure of his father, when he was about fourteen years of age, went into the wholesale and retail drug house of John Hatton, in Cork, to thoroughly learn the business. He remained with Mr. Hatton five years, and at the expiration of that time, on account of failing health, abandoned the business and went to Spain, there opening the first Bible house at Madrid after the granting of liberty of worship in that country. Our subject was in the employ of Prof. William Ireland Knapp, then a Baptist missionary, and now Professor of Languages in the University of Chicago. Mr. Allen remained in Spain until 1871, when he returned to London and was there united in marriage with Miss Caroline Tisdall, an English lady, whom he had met at Madrid when she was governess in the family of the Count of Vilehes. Our subject and his accomplished wife were wedded at St. George's, Hanover Square, London, August 31, 1871, and at once embarked for America. Reaching the United States in safety, Mr. and Mrs. Allen made but a brief stay in New York, then journeyed to the West, where our subject received employment in a drug store in Olivet, Mich. Later Mr. Allen settled in Portland, Mich., where for seven years he was engaged in a drug store of W. W. Bogue, a part of the time being in charge of a branch store at Sunfield. Our subject next located in Muskegon and for seven years was in the drug store of C. L. Brundage, and in 1885 made his home in Montague. For seven years and a-half he dispensed drugs for L. G. Ripley and then engaged in the drug business on his own account.

A thorough pharmacist, entirely at home in every branch of his trade, Mr. Allen has met with well-deserved success, and is recognized as a man of superior ability and training. Politically, our subject is a strong Republican, and fraternally affiliates with the Free & Accepted Masons. Mrs. Allen is a valued member of the Episcopal Church and a ready aid in all good work. Ten children brightened the home, but three little ones died in infancy. The eldest son, William H., is connected with the wholesale drug house of Morrison & Plummer, of Chicago. He is a grad-

uate of the Ferris Business College of Big Rapids, and is a young man of high attainments. A daughter, Allena, is a milliner of Montague. Patience is a successful teacher. Florence, George, Charles and Daniel are now being educated. The family occupy a high social position, and enjoy the esteem of a wide circle of sincere friends.



**A**LBERT KRONEMYER, General Manager and Secretary of the Hudsonville Butter and Cheese Factory, is one of the prominent business men of this prosperous village, and is also well known throughout Ottawa County. He is a son of Bernard and Ellen (Steen) Kronemyer, natives of the Netherlands, who emigrated to America in 1847, and settled in Holland, Ottawa County, Mich. Within two months after the date of their arrival here, the father, mother and four brothers died, leaving only one brother and sister, Albert and Alida. The latter became the wife of Jacob Venderboegh, and is now deceased. The parents were prominent members of the Dutch Reformed Church and were upright, generous and honorable.

Born in the Netherlands February 10, 1839, our subject was a lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents to America, and very soon afterward he was orphaned by their death. He was then given by the church authorities to R. Schilliman, now a resident of North Holland, Mich., who at that time was extensively engaged in shipping lumber, shingles, etc., by boat to the principal markets. With this gentleman the orphan boy remained until he was nineteen, his educational advantages meantime being exceedingly limited. At that age he ran away and, coming to Georgetown Township, worked in the employ of L. & L. Jenison for three summer seasons, attending the district school during the winter.

In August, 1862, Mr. Kronemyer enlisted as a member of Company G, Twenty-first Michigan

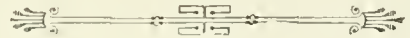
Infantry, and from the ranks was promoted to the position of Corporal, later to Duty-Sergeant and finally to Orderly-Sergeant. With his company he marched to Cincinnati, Ohio, thence to Louisville, Ky., and from there into the enemy's strongholds. He participated in the following-named battles: Perryville, October 8, 1862; Laverne, Tenn., December 27; Stewarts, December 29; Stone River, December 29-31, 1862, and January 1-3, 1863; Tullahoma, Tenn., June 24; Elk River, July 1; Chickamunga, September 19-21; Chattanooga, October 6; Brown's Ferry, October 27; Mission Ridge, November 26; Savannah, Ga., December 11, 18 and 21-24, 1864; Averysboro, N. C., March 16, 1865; and Bentonville, N. C., March 19.

At Bentonville, N. C., Mr. Kronemyer was struck by a musket ball, which knocked him senseless. Left on the field, he was taken prisoner by the Confederates and for two weeks was confined in Libby Prison. Upon being released he was sent to Camp Chase, Ohio, and from there went to Detroit, where he was mustered out with his regiment, June 8, 1865, after a service of two years and ten months. During the entire period of his service, he was never in a hospital or absent from any roll-call, or any battle in which his regiment participated. After his discharge he returned to Hudsonville, and later engaged in rafting logs to Grand River, continuing in that way for one summer. During the winter of 1865-66 he worked in the lumber woods at Georgetown. Prior to the war he purchased a small farm on section 20, Georgetown Township, for which he completed payment after the close of the war.

The marriage of Mr. Kronemyer occurred in 1867, and united him with Miss Mary Van Strate, a native of the Netherlands, who died in 1885, after an illness of twelve years. Four children were born of the union, two of whom are now living, Alida J. and Agatha S. In 1887 Mr. Kronemyer was again married, choosing as his wife Miss Salina Smedley, who was born in England, and who has proved a most efficient helpmate to her husband. To his children Mr. Kronemyer has given excellent educational advantages, and his daughters are young ladies of culture

and refinement. His eldest son died after attaining his majority.

The original purchase of land made by Mr. Kronemyer consisted of seventy-four acres, wholly unimproved, upon which he remained until 1891. After a short sojourn in Grand Rapids, he went to another farm and from there came to Hudsonville in 1893. He owns considerable valuable real estate, including three houses in Grand Rapids and a residence in Hudsonville. In politics a Republican, he has been prominent in local political affairs, and has served as Township Clerk a number of terms, also as Township Treasurer for a long period, and as Supervisor for three years. His life has by no means been an easy one, but he has possessed an abundance of energy, perseverance and the American characteristic of "stick-to-it-iveness," and as a result of his unwearied efforts has gained a large measure of success.



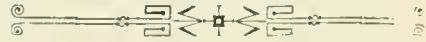
**J**OHIN BUSBY, M. D., the popular young physician and skillful surgeon of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., devotes himself untiringly to the demands of his profession, and already possessing an excellent practice has a brighter future yet before him, his courage, will and enterprise being unfailing factors in helping him upward on the thorny path, whose difficulties all professional young men are called upon to surmount before they can attain to the heights of assured success. The practice of Dr. Busby takes him through a round embracing the immediate neighborhood, as well as the town of Whitehall. Thoroughly at home in the details of general practice, he excels in surgery, and is thus well adapted to the requirements of an extended professional career. Our subject is a native of Ontario and was born in Cumberland June 14, 1868. His parents, William and Sarah (McLaughlin) Busby, are long-time and highly respected residents of the Queen's dominions. The father is a genuine Scotchman, having been born in the city of Glasgow in 1833.

The paternal grandfather, John Busby, in whose honor Dr. Busby was named, was also a native of Glasgow and the descendant of a long line of sturdy Scots.

Grandfather Busby was a molder by trade and an honest, resolute man. He emigrated to America about 1836, and, settling upon a farm in Cumberland, Ontario, devoted himself to the pursuit of general agriculture. William Busby was the eldest of four sons and was about three years old when his parents made their home in Canada. He received an education in the common schools of his home neighborhood, and when seventeen years of age went into the pineries and for fully twenty-five years was connected with one of the largest lumber companies of Canada. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Patrick McLaughlin, the brother of William, and of Hugh McLaughlin, who has been for thirty years the foreman of a large lumber company at Alpena, Mich. Robert is a prominent farmer near Alpena, and John and James are also engaged in the profitable tilling of the soil in Cumberland, Ontario. When our subject was seven years of age, his father and mother, with their family, removed to Montreal, Canada, and in that city Dr. Busby spent the days of boyhood and received his education in the ordinary branches of study, graduating from the Montreal High School with honor.

Our subject for the four succeeding years attended the Montreal Collegiate School, finally entering McGill College, where he completed a four-year course and graduated from the medical department in 1891. His opportunities for an education far above the ordinary were well improved, and to-day but few physicians of his age are as thoroughly versed in the ills that flesh is heir to as is our subject. Immediately following the termination of his medical studies, Dr. Busby came to his present location and began the practice of his chosen profession in Whitehall. Here he has been very successful, gaining an extended reputation as a skillful surgeon. Fraternally, the Doctor is associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and is also a valued member of the Maccabees. Our subject has two brothers, Patrick, older than himself, and interested in a large lum-

ber company at Alpena, and William, younger, and still with his parents in Montreal. During the comparatively brief period of Dr. Busby's residence in Whitehall he has made many friends and enjoys the confidence and respect of the entire community.



**G**ILES T. WOODBURY. The farming class of America, and especially of the northern tier of States, is noted for the degree of intelligence that is possessed by its representatives. Mr. Woodbury belongs to one of the most progressive of families, and as a tiller of the soil, as well as in other respects, he has endeavored to keep out of the old grooves and has always favored the adoption of new and improved methods in conducting his operations. He was born in Perryville, N. Y., November 18, 1818, and up to 1840 resided in that State, when he became a resident of Michigan. As he was an engineer of considerable ability, he soon found employment with William Laslie, of Muskegon, and built and took charge of the Laslie Mill, which is now owned and operated by Messrs. Marsh & Foss. In 1853 he removed from Muskegon to Grand Haven and formed a partnership with C. B. Albee in an extensive tanning establishment, and for nine years thereafter had supervision of the mechanical department of the tannery.

In 1861 Mr. Woodbury removed with his family to Allendale Township, Ottawa County, Mich., and settled on a farm he had purchased, but lived to enjoy his home only a few years, his death occurring on the 10th of August, 1866, at the age of forty-eight years and nine months. In every business transaction in which he engaged he maintained the confidence and trust which are usually the result of sterling principles and strict integrity. In his way he was quite a philanthropist and was an earnest friend and safe counselor of the deserving poor or the fatherless. His earnest support and sympathy were always enlisted in all

enterprises that tended to conduce to the best interests of the community in which he lived, and although quiet and unassuming in his deportment toward his fellow-men, he possessed decided views on all subjects, and his unmistakable position on the side of justice and right was a correct indication of his mind and morals. It was truthfully said of him that "he always saw two sides to every question, and self never stood in the way." He was a devoted member of the Christian Church, to which he donated liberally of his means, as far as he could afford.

He was married to Mrs. Matilda (Gardner) Fox November 14, 1860, a daughter of a worthy English gentleman, and to their union two sons were given: Jesse G. T., and Warren H., of Detroit, Mich. Mr. Woodbury served as Supervisor of his township for several years, and had he lived would have undoubtedly become a very wealthy farmer, for he possessed all the characteristics necessary for a successful agricultural life. He came to the State a poor man, and at the time of his death his farm, which was heavily covered with timber, had begun to take on the appearance of a well-tilled place under his capable management. Timber was fast being removed from it and a considerable portion had been put under cultivation. The house in which his widow and his son Jesse now reside was at that time almost the same as it now is, and it is still one of the best and most substantial houses in the township. Politically, Mr. Woodbury was a Republican, and socially was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The ancestors of Mr. Woodbury originally came from England, and his parents, Luther and Catherine (Harbach) Woodbury, were both born at Sutton, Mass., in which place they long resided. They reared a family of ten children: Bemus; Parmelia; George B., of Muskegon County, Mich.; Giles T., the subject of this sketch; Catherine M.; Candace Sophia; Luther Dwight; William; Francis J.; and W. H.

Jesse G. T., the elder son of our subject, was born in Grand Haven, Mich., in 1861, but ever since his first year has been a resident of the farm where he now makes his home. His education was acquired in the district schools in Allendale Town-

ship, and as soon as able he went with his half-brother, Frank J. Fox, on to the farm and continued to till the soil until his younger brother was of age. He then purchased the latter's interest in the old home farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, of which one hundred acres were well improved. On this farm is a fine apple orchard and he used to raise peaches extensively, but his trees were killed a few years ago by the hard winter. In the fall of 1892 Jesse Woodbury erected a planing-mill and heading factory in company with Dennis Bennett at Allendale Center, and since then he has devoted his time to milling, his farm being rented. He was married December 23, 1887, to Miss Alice M. Walbrink, a native of this county and a daughter of Henry D. and Keziah (Robinson) Walbrink, who were the parents of six children: Mary A., Alice M., Eva, Alidia, Jacob A., Emma A. (deceased) and Minnie K., wife of Eugene Velzy. The mother of these children is deceased, and after her death Mr. Walbrink married Mrs. Nellie D. Knowlton, and by her became the father of two children, both of whom are dead. Mr. Walbrink died in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury have two children, Genevieve and Eva W. Mrs. Woodbury is a member of the Congregational Church and he is a member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons. Politically, he is a Republican, and in 1893 was elected Township Treasurer.



**J**OHAN H. CHAPMAN, the efficient Supervisor of Whitehall, and a prominent insurance and real-estate man of the village, is a native of Martin, Allegan County, Mich., and was born December 19, 1847. Our subject is the only son of Joseph H. and Annie (Casson) Chapman. The father, born in Schenectady County, N. Y., was the son of John Chapman, who was born in Connecticut in about 1790. The paternal grandfather emigrated with his parents to New York at a very early age, and there attained to manhood. The paternal great-grandfather, a man

of unusual ability and sterling integrity, acquired a large property and became an extensive land-owner. He required each of his twelve sons to fit himself for the battle of life by learning a trade, and John, the grandfather of our subject, became an expert blacksmith, and until his death made that trade the occupation of his life. He died in 1843, universally respected by all who knew him. The great-grandfather was a contractor, and during the War for Independence furnished provisions and clothing for Washington's army. The sons of the grandfather also early fitted themselves to earn a livelihood. The eldest, Ezra, was placed in a store to learn the mercantile business. Continuing in this employment, he accumulated a fortune, but later lost heavily by reverses. He died in Allegan County, Mich., to which locality he had removed in 1843.

Ezra Chapman had two sons, Jacob and George. The former served bravely as a soldier in the Thirteenth Michigan Infantry during the late Civil War, and, constantly exposed to the privations incidental to a military campaign, died during his term of enlistment. George survived until 1868. The daughter, Rebecca, married George Nelson, also a soldier of the late war. Mr. Nelson, although shot through the body during a fierce fight, survived, and is to-day a prominent agriculturist and mill-owner of Allegan County. William, the second son of John Chapman, in compliance with the wish of his father, entered into rail-roading as a conductor on one of the first trains which ran out of Albany, N. Y. He remained in this business until his death, at twenty-six years of age. Joseph H., the father of our subject, learned the jeweler's trade in the little town where he was born. He then settled in the city of New York, but in 1843 decided to try his fortune in the West. Prospecting for a future permanent location, he traveled through Ohio, Michigan and Iowa, and finally settled upon the Wolverine State for a future home. He obtained possession of a tract of land in Martin Township, Allegan County, and about the same time opened a jewelry shop. The farmers had but little use, however, for his wares or services in that line, and he concluded to try blacksmithing for a time, although the only knowledge

he had of the trade had been gained by watching his father at the anvil.

Joseph Chapman was later a leading merchant of Otsego, Allegan County, and was extensively interested in large bodies of land. In 1843 he became the owner of landed estates near Easton, Md., and also for some time engaged in mercantile business in that locality. During the early days of the State, the father, a strong Democrat, took a leading part in the local politics of Allegan County, where he served with ability as Sheriff one term. He was also Supervisor, and was numbered among the substantial men and public-spirited citizens. The father and mother were married in Michigan, but Mrs. Annie (Casson) Chapman was a native of Canada, and a daughter of John Casson, an Englishman by birth. While in his native land, the maternal grandfather was employed in Sheffield as a maker of knives and scissors. Mr. Casson, arriving in America, settled in Canada, but later removed to the United States, and located on a farm in Martin Township, Allegan County, Mich. The mother was one of a family of six children, four sons and two daughters. One brother died young, another was killed by lightning; John and Edward are living, the former being a successful farmer at Plainville, Mich., and the latter, at one time a leading contractor of Michigan, is now an extensive farmer in Oregon.

Although the only son of his parents, our subject had four sisters, all of whom are now deceased, one passing away in infancy. Sarah R. became the wife of David Carl, proprietor of a sawmill. Mrs. Carl, dying at the age of twenty-eight, left two children. Annie V. and Mary H. Chapman died aged twenty and twenty-two, respectively. Mr. Chapman, who attained to manhood in his native town, spent the days of boyhood mostly in study, although he also assisted in his father's store at leisure times. He was graduated from the Otsego (Mich.) High School while under twenty years of age, and soon afterward located in Kansas City, where he received employment as baggageman on a railroad. Later he taught school one term, near Lawrence, and completed the balance of the year as a book-keeper and manager of a store in Kansas City. He then

returned to Michigan, and for a time devoted himself to the grocery business. Our subject finally obtained a tract of pine land. For a time he taught school near Big Rapids, but some time later removed to Allegan County, and afterward, in the spring of 1872, came to Whitehall, and for three years he was employed here as book-keeper. At the expiration of this time, Mr. Chapman once more sought his native county, and there engaged in the mercantile and mineral spring business. Afterward he operated a large farm at Hesperia, and also taught school for six months, but in April, 1880, made Whitehall his permanent home.

For six years our subject continued in the service of a large insurance agency, and then established himself in the same business, also handling real estate and giving a portion of his time to the steamship agency. A popular man, of excellent executive ability, Mr. Chapman was appointed Postmaster of Whitehall under Cleveland's first administration and served with fidelity until April, 1892. In the same spring he was placed in nomination by his party as Supervisor, but the strength of the Republican party seemed to forbid his election. So great, however, was the popularity of our subject, that he easily won the race and, re-elected to the responsible position in the spring of 1893, has materially aided in the advancement of the best interests of his home locality.

In 1874, were united in marriage John H. Chapman and Miss Frances A. Baker, daughter of Thomas R. Baker, a native of England. The mother of Mrs. Chapman was born in Wales. The estimable wife of our subject is a favorite with a large circle of friends, and is ever a ready aid in social and benevolent matters of her vicinity. Three children have blessed with their bright presence the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chapman. Florence M., the eldest, is a young lady of eighteen; Lizzie M. is sixteen years of age; and Lee M. is a promising boy of twelve. These young people, intelligent and ambitious, are enjoying the excellent educational facilities of Whitehall, and have before them the prospect of a prosperous future. Our subject is fraternally a prominent member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and, likewise

connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has passed one chair of the same order and worthily filled various offices in the camp. He is also an honorary member of the Maccabees. While not connected by membership with any church, our subject contributes liberally to the support of religious organizations. Politically, a life-long Democrat, and a descendant of Jacksonian ancestry, Mr. Chapman is an ardent advocate of the "Party of the People," and, aside from considerations of creed or political preference, fully commands the high regard of the entire community of Whitehall.



**S**AMUEL MOUNTFORD is not only one of the representative citizens of the county, but as a business man is shrewd, practical and far-seeing, well qualified to discharge the necessary duties of life and well adapted to the active life he has led. He is at present Justice of the Peace of Olive Township and is a merchant and the Postmaster at West Olive, Mich. Mr. Mountford came originally from England, born in Burslem, Staffordshire, August 23, 1837, and is the youngest of six children born to the union of George B. and Elizabeth (Roy) Mountford, natives also of that country. The father was a turner in a pottery in England, and there resided until 1847, when he decided to come to America. He settled in La Grange, Wauworth County, Wis., and there purchased eighty acres of Government land, following agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred about 1851. His wife had passed away in 1819, leaving six children: Thomas, who resides in Minnesota; Esther, widow of George Austin, of White Water, Wis.; George B., who died leaving a family of children; Edna, widow of Benjamin O. Bradway, of Milwaukee, Wis.; Aaron, who died in Iowa; and Samuel, our subject.

Samuel Mountford received his early educational training in England and Wisconsin, and



finished in the High School of Palmyra, that State. The parental roof sheltered him until twenty years of age, when he started out to make his fortune. For some time he was engaged in tilling the soil in Wisconsin, but in the year 1861 his patriotism was aroused, and in September of that year he joined the Fifth Wisconsin Battery of Light Artillery, under Capt. O. F. Pinney, and was attached to the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in Island No. 10, siege of Corinth, Perryville and Stone River, besides numerous skirmishes. He served from the time of enlistment until October 15, 1864, when he was discharged at Madison, Wis., his term of enlistment being up. He was neither wounded nor captured, though he had many close calls. On one occasion the Confederates charged and captured a gun at Stone River, and while fighting for it a Confederate soldier struck Mr. Mountford over the top of the head with his gun. This laid the scalp open, and as a consequence a large scar ornaments the top of Mr. Mountford's head.

After being discharged our subject went to the village of Johnstown, where his wife had purchased a home during his absence, and there he again engaged in farming, which occupation he followed for many years. In 1868 he came to Michigan, located in Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, and there resided until 1877, when he moved to Olive Township, the same county. In this township he purchased a farm of eighty acres, has forty acres under cultivation, and has an elegant residence. All his outbuildings, barns, etc., are kept in good repair and he has a most attractive home. He has a good orchard of nearly all kinds of fruit, but having been appointed Postmaster at West Olive, he moved to that town on the 21st of December, 1891. He still holds that position and also that of Justice of the Peace, to which he was elected in 1887 and again in 1891.

Mr. Mountford has been twice married, first on the 6th of April, 1858, to Miss Sarah A. Westbury, a native of Rochester, N. Y., and the daughter of Edward and Ann Westbury, natives of England. This union resulted in the birth of five children, two of whom died in infancy. Hiram E. resides at No. 501 West Thirteenth Street, Chicago; Byron

A., at No. 912 Taylor Street, Chicago; and Warren R. lives in Millbank, N. D. Mrs. Mountford died on the 15th of September, 1872, in full communion with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she had long been a member. On the 22d of March, 1877, Mr. Mountford married Mrs. Eliza Brooks, widow of Charles C. Brooks, and daughter of Luther and Hannah L. Brown, who were among the first settlers of this portion of the county. By her first husband Mrs. Mountford became the mother of three children: George, of this township; Agnes, wife of Frank Willey, of Chicago, Ill.; and Lucinda, wife of G. H. Flieman, of this township. Mr. Mountford is a member of the Grange, and also a member of William Thirkettle Post No. 388, G. A. R.



**F**RED P. CLARK, who resides in Twin Lake, is one of the honored veterans of the late war who for several years wore the blue and aided in defense of the Old Flag which now floats so proudly over the United Nation. He was born in Allegany County, N. Y., January 13, 1843, and is a son of Amazi and Sophronia (Bennett) Clark. His grandfather, Thesial Clark, was born in New England and was of Irish descent. He was a millwright and general mechanic and followed that business through life. His wife died in New York, after which he went to make his home with his son in Janesville, Wis., where his death occurred. Their children were Amazi, Hiram, Horace, Smith and two who died in early childhood.

The father of our subject, born in New York in October, 1815, was educated in the district schools and learned the trade of a millwright. He remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age and soon afterwards he married Sophronia Bennett, daughter of Andrew Bennett, one of the Revolutionary heroes. Their children were Oramel, Fred J., Andrew B., George, and Eliza, wife of John Terry. After his marriage, Mr. Clark purchased a farm in New York, upon which he resided until 1857, when

he removed to Cayuga County, N. Y., and followed his trade until 1865. He then went to Oil County, Pa., where he spent three years, after which he returned to the State of his nativity, where he is now living retired. His wife died in Olean, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., in 1884, and he afterward married Miss Fuller. Mr. Clark is a member of the Protestant Baptist Church, and in politics is a Democrat.

The subject of this sketch remained with his parents until entering the army at the age of nineteen. He enlisted in Company E, Fifth New York Cavalry, in 1861, and was in the Eastern Army under Gen. Banks, participating in the battles of Winchester, Spottsylvania Court House, Orange Court House, second battle of Bull Run, Marvian Hill and Gettysburg. He was wounded with a sabre at Orange Court House and was captured between Hagerstown and Williamston. At Belle Isle, where he was first taken, he remained for eight months, and was then sent to Andersonville, where he remained for six months and fifteen days. There he had charge of a squad at the stockade and proved of great assistance to the prison sufferers by dividing his rations with them. Sometimes the troops were almost starved and so ravenous did they become that on one occasion they killed a dog for food. Mr. Clark had charge of five hundred small-pox patients in the prison hospital for three months, but never suffered from the disease. With three comrades he made his escape from the stockade, but they were recaptured by blood hounds. At length he succeeded in escaping by getting in the Union ranks at the time Sherman exchanged prisoners. Broken down by the hardship of war and the ill-treatment of prison life, when mustered out at Cedar Creek in October, 1864, he was a physical wreck.

On his return from the army, Mr. Clark was employed in a sawmill on the Alleghany River, in New York, and has continued the milling business during the greater part of his life, but since 1890 has practically lived retired. In 1868, he left his native State, and, coming to Michigan, made a permanent location in Muskegon County. Since 1868, he has lived in Twin Lake. Having homesteaded eighty acres of land, for the past three

years he has devoted his energies entirely to its cultivation and improvement, and the farm now yields him a good income.

In the Empire State, Mr. Clark and Miss Hattie, daughter of Rollin and Susan (Everet) Pratt, were united in marriage. Seven children were born of their union, but three died in childhood. Those living are Frank, who married Emma McQueen; Charles, who married Myra McCrai; Fred A., who wedded Ettie Buzzell; and Hattie M. The parents held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, our subject is connected with the Masonic fraternity of Olean, N. Y., and with Dick Whitehead Post No. 342, G. A. R., of Twin Lake. In politics, he is a supporter of the principles of Republicanism and is now serving as Justice of the Peace, which office he has held for six years. During the quarter of a century which he has spent in Muskegon County, he has formed a wide acquaintance, and his honorable, upright career has gained him the good-will and confidence of all.



**J**OHAN STEGEMAN, an enterprising general agriculturist and well-known citizen, and for the past three years an active member of the School Board of Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., is a native of the Wolverine State and was born on the same farm where he now resides April 24, 1859. His parents, Mannes and Cornelia (Van Delaare) Stegeman, were both natives of Europe. The paternal grandfather, James Stegeman, lived in the province of Overyssel, in the Netherlands. He owned and cultivated a farm and reared a large family of sons and daughters, of whom the father of John Stegeman was the only one who ever came to the United States. The father remained with his parents until about thirty years of age. He received a good common-school education and learned the carpenter's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years. He ambitiously emigrated to the United States in 1847, and reaching port in safety journeyed at once to

Holland, Mich., having only money enough to get here. Working at his trade in Holland, and for two years employed at Old Landing, on Black River, Mannes Stegeman accumulated a little money, which he wisely invested in forty acres of land in the southwestern part of Holland Township. Later, selling his first purchase, he bought where our subject now lives.

The father married about two years after making his residence in Michigan Miss Aliee Ensing, who died six months after her wedding. Some time later were united Mannes Stegeman and Cornelia Van Delaare, the daughter of Peter A. and Mary Van Delaare. Unto the union of the parents were born seven children, all of whom are living: Jane, who married Benjamin Koekkoek; Peter; James; Rev. Abraham, an eloquent preacher of the Reformed Church of North Holland; John; Egbertina, wife of Gerrit Looman; and Rev. William, of Grand View, S. Dak. William is a graduate of Hope College, and Abraham and William both graduated from New Brunswick (N. J.) College. The father purchased eighty-five acres of land, all in the woods, and lived to see it improved and put under fine cultivation. He was a devout member of the Reformed Church of Holland, and, politically, was a Democrat. For ten years an efficient member of the School Board, Mannes Stegeman identified himself with the vital interests of his American home. Born in 1819, he survived until May 9, 1889, and at three-score years and ten passed peacefully away, mourned as a public loss. The mother, born in 1826, yet survives and enjoys fairly good health.

The education of our subject was received in the common schools of his immediate neighborhood, and he has made his life-time home upon the old farm, cultivating the fertile acres bought by his father so many years ago. Mr. Stegeman married, in 1885, Hannah Kamps, daughter of Geert and Jacobje (Neymier) Kamps. The estimable wife of our subject was likewise born in Holland Township, Ottawa County, her parents emigrating from the Netherlands to Holland, Mich., a few years later than the father of Mr. Stegeman. Four sons have brightened the pleasant home: Manley, Gebhard, Herman James and Paul.

Mr. and Mrs. Stegeman are foremost in good work, and our subject is a valued member of the Reformed Church at Zeeland. Politically a Democrat, Mr. Stegeman takes a deep interest in both local and national issues, and, young and enterprising, occupies a leading place in the home councils of the party, and, widely known, commands the high regard of the community amid which his busy years of usefulness are passed.



**J**OHAN A. MILLER, the extensive wholesale and retail dealer in hardware and farming implements, desirably located at No. 25 East Western Avenue, Muskegon, has for seventeen years profitably conducted his present business, one of the best in its line of trade in the county. Born in the city of Chicago September 27, 1845, Mr. Miller made his home in Muskegon in 1867, and, an energetic and resolute young man, entered with enterprise into the advancing interests of the Wolverine State, where, continuing a constant resident, he has for twenty-seven years been intimately associated with its upward growth.

The father of our subject, Alexander Miller, was a native of Scotland and son of Nathaniel Miller, who was born, reared and educated in the land of the Scots, where he passed his entire life, there marrying and rearing to usefulness a family of sturdy, upright descendants. Alexander Miller, intelligently discerning the broader opportunities available in the United States, emigrated to this country and was numbered among the early settlers of Chicago, where he successfully engaged in business, married and reared a family. The mother, Anna (Gray) Miller, born in Ireland, of a family highly respected in the Emerald Isle, emigrated to America in youth and attained to mature age in the city of Chicago, of whose rapid development she was an observant witness.

J. A. Miller gained his education in the excellent public schools of his birthplace, and later

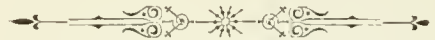
enjoyed the benefit of a thorough course (commercial) in the Chicago High School. Having completed his studies, he learned the trade of a tinner, and for three years served an apprenticeship with Thomas George & Co., of Chicago. For a time after acquiring his trade Mr. Miller worked as a journeyman in the same locality, but finally, in 1866, removed from the familiar scenes of his youth and made Michigan his permanent home. Here for ten years in Muskegon he worked industriously at his trade, but in 1876 embarked in the hardware business upon his own account. Being thoroughly practical and entirely at home in the details of the trade, the venture of our subject was from the first an assured success, and in the handling of farming implements and merchandise he has achieved especially gratifying results.

The large and handsome store of which John A. Miller is proprietor is 44x125 feet and three stories in height and, built by our subject for the demands of his business, is light, airy and finely arranged. Financially prospered, Mr. Miller owns other valuable property in the residence part of Muskegon and is accounted one of the substantial men of the city. In 1863 he enlisted in Company G, Fourth Board of Trade Regiment, Chicago, commanded by Col. McChesney, and with the Army of the Cumberland participated in many of the decisive battles of the long campaign, after a courageous service of two years being mustered out at Chicago in 1865.

Upon the 30th of October, 1867, John A. Miller and Miss Isabella Galbraith were united in marriage. Mrs. Miller is a native of Scotland and a daughter of James Galbraith the descendant of a long line of noted Scotch ancestry. Of the four children who have blessed the union of our subject and his estimable wife two are now surviving: John A., Jr., a promising student in the Muskegon High School, and Donald, a bright young lad, an attendant of the grammar school. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are valued members of the Episcopal Church and active aids in the religious and benevolent work of their denomination. Their pleasant home, No. 25 Miller Avenue, Muskegon, is the frequent scene of social re-unions, the family enjoying a wide circle of old-time acquaintances and fully

possessing the sincere regard and confidence of many friends.

Mr. Miller is a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Chicago and is fraternally connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, being a member of Lowell Moore Lodge No. 182, also affiliating with Muskegon Chapter No. 47, R. A. M. Our subject is likewise a member of Muskegon Council No. 54, R. & S. M. and is a member of Commandery No. 22, K. T. He is a member of Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R., and is a popular member of the Caledonian Society. Possessed of executive business ability and enterprise, Mr. Miller aided in the organization of the Muskegon Savings Bank, was its efficient Vice-President three years and is now a Director. Politically a staunch Republican, he has ever been intimately associated with matters of public welfare, and from 1884 to 1886 as President of the Council of Muskegon materially aided in the promotion of local enterprise and improvements.



**J**OHAN J. NABER, a representative general agriculturist and enterprising citizen of section 35, Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., is a native of the Wolverine State, and was born on the same farm where he now resides in the year 1855. Our subject is a son of Johanas and Anna (Devries) Naber, well-known and long-time residents of Holland. The paternal grandparents were John and Cora (Vanderscheer) Naber. The grandfather worked by the day as a farmer, and lived and died in the Netherlands. The father, born in the Old Country May 17, 1813, owned a small farm, but was obliged to work by the day for others to eke out a living for his family. Entering the service of the Government as a soldier, he was thus registered: "Reddish face, round forehead, eyes brown, nose natural, hair black, no marks on body." Entering the Eighteenth Regiment he received his discharge September 15, 1839. He married in the Netherlands, and unto

him and his estimable wife were born in the Old Country two children, one of whom died in the Netherlands and the other passed away while crossing the ocean. He emigrated to the United States in 1848, locating at once in Holland Township, Ottawa County, where he immediately purchased the farm upon which our subject now resides, forty-five acres of Government land, from which not even one tree had been cut.

The father slept for thirty days in a bush shanty while looking for land and building a little one-room house from trees felled on his own acres. To the original purchase he added forty acres more, all now cleared, cultivated highly, and improved with excellent buildings. Of the five children born unto the parents, our subject is now the only one surviving. The father was a member of the church, a devout Christian man, and dying in October, 1892, preceded his wife but a few months to the better land, the mother passing away July 17, 1893. Politically a Republican, the father was a liberal-spirited citizen of broad views and earnest purpose. Five years ago the parents left the farm and moved to Holland, June 29, 1888. Two years later they removed to Zeeland, where they remained until their death.

Our subject received his education in the common schools of his home district and remained with his parents until he had attained manhood. He was married at the age of twenty-one, upon his birthday, to Miss Alice, daughter of Johanas and Gertie (Boss) Hellenthal. The excellent wife of our subject was born in Fillmore Township, Ottawa County, in 1854. Her parents, natives of the Netherlands, emigrated to the United States in 1818. Five intelligent children have brightened the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Naber. One little one, Cora, died November 9, 1888, at the age of two years and four months. The surviving daughters and son are in the order of their birth: Anna, Johanas, Gertie and Cora.

Mr. Naber remained with his father, aiding in the management and work of the farm until 1888, when he entered into full possession of the homestead, containing eighty-five acres, all improved. Mr. and Mrs. Naber are valued members of the Reformed Church, are active in religious work,

and are ever ready to do their part in the benevolent enterprises of their home locality. Politically a Republican, our subject is interested in local advancement, and is numbered among the leading men and substantial citizens of Holland Township.



**W**ILLIAM W. OWEN is one of the enterprising and progressive business men of Muskegon, who gives his support and aid to all worthy local enterprises, and does all in his power to advance the best interests of the community. He is now engaged in the real-estate and insurance business, and his labors bring him in a good return. His home is situated at No. 167 South Terrace Street, where he and his estimable wife keep open house, their home being the abode of hospitality.

The life record of our subject is as follows: He was born in Sussex County, N. J., on the 15th of August, 1840, and is a son of Alpheus and Frances (Hinchman) Owen, both of whom were natives of New York. The father died in New Jersey, when his son William was a lad of only five summers. Our subject spent the days of his boyhood in the county of his nativity, and there began his education in the common schools. At the age of fifteen he came to Michigan with his mother, locating in Oakland County, where his education was completed. He there began his business career as a clerk, and in September, 1860, he came to Muskegon, where he engaged in clerking for two years. On the expiration of that period he formed a partnership with S. B. Peck, his former employer, and continued in general merchandising, which business they carried on for some time.

In 1863, Mr. Owen was united in marriage with Miss Armina E. Boyce, a native of Upper Canada, and unto them were born three children, but all are now deceased. The year after his marriage, Mr. Owen received the appointment of Postmaster of Muskegon, and was the first Postmaster of Muskegon whose appointment was confirmed by the

Senate. On the expiration of his first term he was re-appointed, and held the office for five years altogether, when he resigned. It was also Mr. Owen who drew the first postoffice order in this place. After handing in his resignation he opened a stationery and book store and carried on business in that line for several years, but at length sold out, in May, 1886, and began his present business, which he has conducted successfully since. He is recognized as one of the leading real-estate and insurance agents of Muskegon. Mr. Owen built the first brick and stone building in this city, and in other ways has been prominently identified with its upbuilding and advancement.

In political views our subject is a Republican, and for three years served as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. He is now Chairman of the Building Committee which has in charge the erection of the new court house, which is now in process of construction. Socially, he is a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M.; Muskegon Chapter No. 47, R. A. M., and Muskegon Commandery No. 22, K. T. He also belongs to Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F. He has passed all the chairs in the Grand Encampment and the Grand Lodge of Michigan, has been Grand Patriarch of the same and is Grand Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. Mr. Owen is also Secretary of the Local Board of the Capital Investment Building and Loan Association, and throughout the community is widely and favorably known.



**H**ENRY J. DEVRIES. This prominent and energetic young agriculturist of Holland Township was born in 1865, one mile and a-half from section 22, where he now resides. He is a son of John and Everdina (Rysdorp) De Vries, and the grandson of Bernard and Alice De Vries, both parents and grandparents natives of the Netherlands. Bernard De Vries followed

the occupation of a farmer, and was the owner of considerable land in his native country. He was married there, and before emigrating to the United States two of his children were born, John and Jerry.

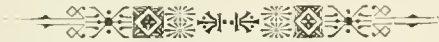
In 1847, the family crossed the ocean, hoping to achieve success in the New World. They had just enough money to carry them across the Atlantic, and as it took them six weeks to make the voyage they landed in New York with very little means. The fertile soil of the West tempted them to turn their faces in that direction, and they found their way to Holland, Mich., where they bought forty acres of land, one and a-half miles east of our subject's residence. One child, Bernard, was born after reaching this country. This worthy and much esteemed old couple are still living, and both have reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years, having married at the age of twenty-five. Mr. De Vries is a consistent member of the First Reformed Church of Zeeland, and he and his wife have ever been classed among the best and worthiest citizens of the community.

John De Vries, the father of our subject, first saw the light of day in 1836. He received his education principally in the common schools of the Netherlands. Until twenty years of age he remained under the parental roof, and then married Miss Everdina Rysdorp, who came with her parents from the Netherlands to this country at an early date. After marriage, Mr. De Vries bought sixty acres of land in this township, near his father's farm, and as the property was wild and uncultivated, he began at once to improve and make a home. To the original tract he added from time to time, until he became the owner of one hundred and ninety-five acres in Ottawa County. In addition to this he acquired eighty acres in Muskingum County, and this he owns at present.

Renting his land, Mr. De Vries embarked in the milling business on the farm now owned by our subject, and was engaged in this enterprise for twenty-five years, reaping substantial results in the mean time. Later he engaged in milling in Antrim County, and finally bought the entire mill and stock. This mill and two hundred thousand feet of lumber were destroyed by fire in June,

1893, and as there was no insurance all was lost. Mr. De Vries and his worthy wife make their home in Grand Rapids Mich. The five children born to them were in the order of their birth: Benjamin a dentist residing in Holland; Minnie, widow of J. Moerdyk; Henry J., our subject; Albert J., residing in Grand Rapids; and Katie, the wife of Albert C. Keppel, of Holland.

The original of this notice was educated in the district schools of his native county, and in Hope College, Holland. He was early trained to the arduous duties of the farm, and it was but natural that when starting out for himself he should choose agriculture for his calling in life. He was married in 1888 to Miss Dena, daughter of Wesley and Elizabeth Nibbelink, and two children have been given them, John W. and Elizabeth H. Socially, our subject is a member of the Third Reformed Church of Holland. In politics, he affiliates with the Republican party. He commenced farming operations as a renter, and now has control of one hundred and fifteen acres of his father's land. He is enterprising and progressive and will undoubtedly gain success in life.



**A**LBERTUS VANDER HAAR, a prosperous general farmer, highly respected citizen, and the Township Clerk of Holland, Ottawa County, was elected in 1879 Justice of the Peace, and for twelve consecutive years ably discharged the duties of the office and gave general satisfaction to the entire community among whom he so wisely administered the law. Mr. Vander Haar, a native of the State and county, was born on the same farm which he now so industriously cultivates in the year 1850. His parents, well-known residents of the township, were Walter and Henrietta (Deweord) Vander Haar. The father was a son of John and Mary (Groothuis) Vander Haar. The paternal grandfather owned land, upon which he conducted successfully a dairy business. He reared to usefulness a family of eight children,

five of whom emigrated to the United States. Hein resides in Holland; Grace is the wife of John Visscher; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of A. Venema; and Jane H. married Mr. Vandeberg, of Holland. Walter, the father of our subject, remained with his parents until he had attained to mature years. He received a good common-school education, and as he grew older determined to make his home in America.

In 1846, in company with a brother and two sisters, all single, Walter Vander Haar sailed for the United States. Possessed of but little means, the party embarked on a sailing-vessel and were seventy days crossing the ocean to New Orleans, where they finally landed safe and sound. In a short time Walter made his way to St. Louis, where he spent one winter, working by the day. He then journeyed to Michigan, and, locating in Holland, bought eighty acres of land of Dr. Van Raalte. Afterward selling that farm, the father purchased the one hundred and forty acres of valuable land where our subject now makes his home. The land, then partially cleared, is now one of the finest farms in this section of the country, and presents an appearance of thrift and prosperity. In 1848 Walter Vander Haar was united in marriage with Henrietta, the daughter of Albert and Jennie Deweord, natives of the Netherlands, who came to the United States with their family in 1847. The mother had been well educated in her native land, and, a woman of ability and fine character, was well fitted to assume the cares of a family.

Six children blessed the home of the parents. The eldest, Albertus, is our subject; Mary married G. Smeeng; the others are John, Jennie, Christina (married to A. J. Bolks) and William. The father and his wife were active members of the Reformed Church of Holland, and were ever ready to lend a helping hand in religious or benevolent work. Politically a Republican, he took a deep interest in Governmental affairs, and, identifying himself with all the vital interests of his American home, was deeply mourned as a true citizen when he passed to his rest in 1874. The mother, yet surviving and hale and hearty, makes her home with our subject, who took charge of the farm after the death of his father. Mr. Vander Haar has added

twenty acres to the original homestead, has planted out a large space in celery, raises grain and other products, and rents a portion of the land. He received a good education in the district schools, and as a private citizen and in the conduct of public offices entrusted to his care has proven himself a man of high principle and executive ability.



REV. HENRY E. DOSKER is pastor of the Third Reformed Church, of Holland, Mich., and was born in the Netherlands, near the city of Utrecht, February 5, 1855, a son of Rev. Nicholas H. Dosker, a minister of the Christian Reformed Church of that country. In 1873 he came to America as pastor of the Second Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, which position he held for ten years thereafter, when he became pastor of the First Reformed Church at Kalamazoo. While discharging his duties there he was called from his labors, his death occurring in 1887. His wife was Wilhelmina De Ronde, a descendant of an old and prominent Huguenot family, and their union resulted in the birth of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, only three of the others now living. Rev. Nicholas H. Dosker was a very prominent church worker and he co-operated in strengthening a large number of churches of his denomination throughout the State of Michigan which had run down in membership, his career in this work being one of uninterrupted success. His widow survives him and is living at Grand Rapids.

Rev. Henry E. Dosker received his early education in the gymnasium at Zwolle, Holland, from which well-known institution of learning he graduated in 1873. Immediately after finishing his education he came to America, and resided for a time at Grand Rapids, Mich., after which he continued to pursue the paths of learning at Hope College, and from this institution he was also

graduated, in 1876. When he came to this country he could not speak a word of English, but he was quick and intelligent, and was soon able to make himself understood in that most difficult of languages. After finishing his literary studies in Hope College, he began the study of theology in that institution, and later in the Reformed Seminary, at New Brunswick, N. J. In April, 1879, he graduated from McCormick Seminary, a Presbyterian institution, after which he traveled in Europe for about six months. Upon his return he located at Ebenezer, Mich., as pastor of the Reformed Church, which position he filled from 1879 until February, 1882, when he was called to the First Reformed Church at Grand Haven, of which he remained pastor until August, 1886. He then became Professor of Historical Theology at the Western Seminary of the Reformed Church of America, at Holland, Mich. In 1888 he made a second tour through Europe, traveling thoroughly over the Netherlands and Germany, but gladly returned to his adopted country in 1889, and soon after accepted the position of pastor of the church with which he is at present connected. His labors in the vineyard of his Master have been earnest, conscientious and energetic, and he has succeeded in increasing the membership of his congregation until it now has about two hundred and sixty members. The church is a handsome, convenient and well-constructed building, an ornament to the city, and is furnished with the finest pipe organ in the county.

Rev. Mr. Dosker was first married September 19, 1879, to Miss Frances L., a daughter of Henry Doorninck. She was born in Grand Rapids, and died on the 31st of May, 1880, and on the 21st of February, 1882. Rev. Mr. Dosker took for his second wife Miss Minnie, a daughter of D. Doorninck, and a cousin of his first wife. She was born in Milwaukee, Wis., and has borne her husband three children: Emelia O., Nicholas H. and Richard J. Rev. Mr. Dosker is a man of refined tastes, very highly cultivated, and is quite a gifted writer. He has contributed to papers, magazines, etc. His chief literary work is a biography of Dr. A. C. Van Raalte, the founder of the Dutch settlement in Michigan. Our subject is the clerk of the Coun-



oil of Hope College, in the welfare of which he is deeply interested. He has ministered to the spiritual wants of his fellow-men for the past fourteen years, and his career has been ever honorable and upright. During this time his name has been inseparably linked with the religious history of Michigan, whose annals bear testimony to the integrity of his character and the brilliancy of his mental powers. He is a man of strong will, clear conceptions, generous impulses, and scrupulously mindful of the rights of others. His life has been singularly pure, and all his acts are strongly characteristic of good, sound sense. His sermons are terse in style, firm in diction, logical in thought, and yet free from all ostentatious display, being filled with Biblical citations, historic references and earnest, religious pathos. He is a diligent student and a ripe scholar, and the world is decidedly better for his having lived in it.



**W**ILLIAM PECK, an enterprising business man and leading hardware merchant of Montague, Muskegon County, Mich., is also an efficient Supervisor of the township, and has held with faithful discharge of duty various important official positions of trust, and has long been closely identified with the progressive interests of his home locality. Mr. Peck, a native of Oxford, Ontario, was born on the 20th of March, 1843, and was the youngest of the two sons of Lynus and Sarah (Ehle) Peck. The father, born in Pennsylvania in 1805, was the eldest of the three sons of Joseph Peck, born in Connecticut in 1751.

The great-grandfather, Abram Peck, was the son of Joseph Peck, an Englishman by nativity, but who early in the seventeenth century emigrated to this country and settled in New England, in company with two brothers, one of whom was a preacher. The paternal great-grandfather was a brave soldier in the War of the Revolution, and it is said that his good wife, also carrying a gun, fought with patriotism by his side. The

grandfather, while yet young, emigrated from Connecticut to Pennsylvania and became a prosperous farmer of the Quaker State. He was a man of fine musical ability, and gained considerable notoriety during the War of 1812, in which he served as a fifer. On one occasion he came in close contact with a Tory, from whose hands he wrenched a musket, which he proceeded to use with good effect, playing his fife when it was necessary to inspire the soldiers, and also loading and firing the gun. For this gallant conduct he was given the name of the "fighting fifer." He lived to witness nearly a century of the rapid progress and development of the United States, surviving until ninety-seven years of age, when he passed away near Rochester, N. Y. The father of our subject was separated in childhood from the other members of his family, and but very little is known concerning his two brothers.

In 1831 Lynus Peck located in Grand Rapids, but soon returned to Canada, and remained there until the '50s, when he brought his family to Michigan and settled in Van Buren County, where he resided for many years. Finally removing to Newaygo County, he passed away in that locality in 1871. He was a man of more than ordinary ability and of strong character, and, although often urged to accept a nomination to an office, positively refused to do so. Sarah Ehle, the mother of Mr. Peck, was the daughter of Sturnburg Ehle, who was of Holland descent. Born in Otsego, N. Y., Mrs. Sarah (Ehle) Peck, yet surviving, lives alone upon the old homestead in Newaygo County, and although arrived at almost eighty years of age is well preserved and vigorous. Of the children who clustered about the fireside of the parents, Abram is now a prominent lumberman and an extensive farmer in Lewis County, Wash., Mahala married Joseph De Haven, a successful lumberman and farmer of Newaygo County; and Rosetta married Royal Rummerfield, a prosperous general agriculturist of Michigan.

Our subject was a boy of seventeen when, with his parents, he found a permanent home in Michigan. What schooling he enjoyed he received before he was thirteen years of age, as he then began to earn his daily bread by picking up

cobblestones at \$4 per month. The first four years after the arrival of Mr. Peck in Michigan he worked out on a farm at very low wages, and in 1863, when but twenty years old, journeyed to Kansas, where he received employment from the United States Government at Ft. Leavenworth as a scout on the Western frontier, in Kansas, Texas, Arkansas and New Mexico. He experienced many adventures and hair-breadth escapes from scenes of peril. In 1865 Mr. Peck returned to Michigan, and soon after married Miss Jennie Beattie, born in Canada, but of Scotch ancestry. For two years our subject was engaged in tilling the soil in Van Buren County, and later was employed for two years in the lumber camps of northern Michigan. He was afterward for one year in business in Dorr, Allegan County. Having picked up telegraphy in his spare moments, our subject secured work as operator at Grand Junction, but after a time accepted a position as a conductor on the New Buffalo Railroad to Muskegon. At the end of a twelvemonth Mr. Peck became the proprietor and manager of the Railroad Eating House at Grand Junction, and for two years there provided for the wants of the traveling public. For thirteen continuous years he was connected with the lumber manufacturing business in various places, the latter part of the time being located near Montague.

In 1885 our subject established his present general hardware and farming-implement business, and now conducts one of the largest stores and handles one of the most extensive stocks in this part of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Peck are the parents of three children. William M., married and the father of one child, is interested with our subject in business; Edna B. and Eddie L. are at home. Politically, Mr. Peck, the descendant of an old Democratic family, is true to the precepts and principles of Thomas Jefferson, and wherever he has made his home has taken an active part in the local councils of the "Party of the People." In the face of Republican opposition he was elected to the responsible position of Supervisor, was Treasurer of the Democratic County Convention for two years, Justice of the Peace five years, Township Treasurer two years, and is a valued

member of the Democratic County Central Committee. In the fall of 1892 our subject was a candidate in the convention for the nomination of Sheriff, but through a compromise withdrew. Fraternally, Mr. Peck is a prominent member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum and the Maccabees. He has passed the chairs in the Royal Arcanum, and was delegate to the Grand Lodge twice, and likewise delegate to the Great Tent of the Maccabees. In his business, social and fraternal relations Mr. Peck commands universal esteem, and enjoys the sincere friendship of a host of acquaintances.



**R**OKUS KANTERS, editor. The man who edits the *Weekly Journal* must be thoroughly posted, wide-awake, and must understand the wants of his patrons to be successful, and that Rokus Kanters possesses these essential requirements cannot be doubted, for his paper, the *De Hope*, has a large circulation, and as it is published in the Dutch language, has an extensive patronage among the people of Ottawa County. Mr. Kanters was born at Goedereede, an island in the North Sea, between Brouwershaven and the new waterway to Rotterdam, Holland, January 5, 1826. His grandfather, father and three brothers followed the profession of hydraulic engineering, after the method especially adopted and practiced in the kingdom of Holland for the construction of harbors, break-waters, dikes, cribs, levees, etc., and their services were often required in the construction of coast defenses and harbor works by the Dutch Government.

From the time Rokus Kanters was thirteen years of age until he was sixteen years old he assisted his father in numerous surveys along the coast, and was thoroughly instructed in all the details of coast and harbor works during the summer months. His winters were spent in attending

school, but after his sixteenth year his entire time was devoted to harbor and coast construction, and when eighteen years old he was sufficiently well versed to superintend the construction of several minor works. When twenty years old he was placed in charge of some important shore construction on the island of Tien Gemeeten, and it was successfully carried on according to plans furnished by the Government engineers. In 1849 his parents, who by frugality and industry had become well-to-do, caught the Western fever, and accordingly sailed for America, but at that time Rokus Kanters was not inclined to leave his native country, and decided to remain and succeed to his father's former position, and in the fall of 1848 he received his first contract, a work that involved thirty thousand guilders and was of a very important nature. Until 1862 he pursued this work along the coast of southern Holland and Zeeland, his work being always admirably done and showing an excellent knowledge of engineering. In 1862 he complied with the entreaties of his parents and came to America, but up to the present time has not entirely given up his old profession, but, on the contrary, has constructed several important works for the United States Government at Black Lake, Mich.; Chicago, Ill.; on the Brazos River at Velasco, Tex.; Buffalo, N. Y.; the Lehigh Valley Railroad; Prospect Park; Coney Island, N. Y., and elsewhere. Not only have he and his sons made this branch of engineering their study and business for years, but it may be truly said that there is no firm in the United States with a more thoroughly practical knowledge of their business than that of R. Kanters & Sons.

During his residence in Holland, Mich., Mr. Kanters has become very favorably known as a useful, patriotic and God-fearing man. He has been an Alderman of the city for two terms, and also Mayor for one term. He is an active member of the Reformed Church, and has always taken a deep interest in promoting its interests and growth. He has always manifested a great interest in the success of Hope College, of Holland, Mich., and the cause of education has always found in him a staunch supporter. He is blessed

with a highly accomplished family, consisting of his wife, five sons (all men of culture and practical intelligence) and two daughters. He has ever been a shrewd and far-seeing man of business, keenly alive to his own interests, but never at the expense of others or of his own ideas of right and justice. He has numerous friends in his native land, and the circle of his friendship here is wide and constantly on the increase.



COL. T. S. WATSON, the popular and genial proprietor of the Watson House, Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., has furnished superior accommodations to transient guests and the local public in his present locality since 1878. A man of excellent business ability, he has gained a host of friends and is a thoroughly courteous landlord, attentive and entirely at home in every detail of his daily cares. He was born in Watertown, N. Y., May 23, 1845, and was the only son of S. J. B. and Sylvia (Slate) Watson. His father, born in Dublin in 1814, emigrated from Ireland to America when quite young, settling in Watertown, N. Y. He had a sister who, when last heard from, was a music teacher in Montreal, Canada.

The father was twice married, his first wife being the mother of our subject. Sylvia Slate was born on Grand Stone Island, in the St. Lawrence River, her people having located on the island, which still remains among the possessions of the Slate family. The mother died when Col. Watson was but a little lad of five years, and the father by a second marriage had one son and one daughter. This son, S. H. Watson, was for several years Register of Deeds for Muskegon County, and now holds an office in the Pension Department at Washington. Mary Ellen, the half-sister, died at twenty-one years of age.

The father of our subject, a teacher in his early life and later an architect of Washington, in 1851 removed to Michigan, and, landing at the mouth

of White River, put a filing on the first piece of land recorded in Muskegon County. As a contractor, he built the first sawmill at Ludington for George Ford, and was one of the prominent and enterprising pioneers of Muskegon County. Occupying various official positions of trust with efficiency, he served as Justice of the Peace, was Supervisor, Sheriff before Muskegon County was organized, and Postmaster under Buchanan. He died in 1885, leaving a valuable estate. His last wife yet survives him and resides in Montague. After the death of his mother our subject lived with his grandmother for four years, when, his father marrying again, he returned to him.

The Colonel was eleven years of age when he accompanied his parents to Michigan, and while growing up literally worked in the wilderness, receiving but a common-school education. He was sixteen years of age when the war broke out, but promptly at the demand of the Government for three hundred thousand more, he enlisted, June 15, 1861, in Company E, Second Michigan Cavalry, Phil Sheridan's old regiment. He served in the Western Division of the army for a little more than a year, and August 27, 1862, was transferred to Company F, Fifth Michigan Cavalry, and the September following was sent to Washington. He was then detached from his command and detailed to the headquarters of Gen. Kearny as Corps Dispatch Courier, a most important position of trust for a boy in his teens. Later, Col. Watson was appointed on the staff of Gen. Custer as Dispatch Courier, and afterward was Corps Dispatch Courier for Gen. Kilpatrick, and finally became Dispatch Courier for the Army of the Potomac under Gen. King.

On October 10, 1863, when Lee and Longstreet advanced on the Union army a second time, at Brandy Station, Mr. Watson was taken prisoner and thrown into Libby. From Libby he was transferred to Thunder Castle, and thence to Belle Isle, where he endured most terrible privations and sufferings during the early part of the cold winter of 1864. He was finally sent to Andersonville, where he endured tortures for eleven months. The advance of the Union army obliged the Confederates to change the quarters of their prisoners,

and with many others our subject was forwarded to Kahoba, Ala., Savannah, Ga., Charleston, S. C., Sullivan's Island, and thence to Florence, S. C. They were finally lodged in Salisbury, N. C., from which place they were at last liberated by the raid of Stoneman, who set free at least seventeen hundred wretched prisoners. When freed after eighteen months of cruel imprisonment, our subject was literally reduced to a skeleton. Sent on to headquarters, he was accorded a furlough and remained at home until July 12, 1865, when he was discharged by telegraphic order from Washington, having served faithfully over four years.

Col. Watson embarked in the steamboat business on White Lake soon after, and continued in the same until 1868, when he went to Watertown, N. Y., and joined a party organized to go to the Black Hills. He was not long absent, however, from Watertown, but soon returning thither was united in marriage with Mrs. Eva Phelps, a widow, and the daughter of Dr. William J. Lone, an old army surgeon. Mrs. Watson had two brothers and four sisters. The brothers are deceased. Belle married L. B. Sterling, son of Judge Sterling, now connected with the paper-mills of Watertown; Clara married Charles Gill, who is connected with the wagon-works at Watertown; Lottie married Thomas Brun, an attorney at Watertown.

Immediately succeeding his marriage, Col. Watson with his wife located in Brockville, where he was in the contracting business, under the firm name of Watson & Comstock. For a number of years he was in the lumber and timber business, traveling through Canada, and later was engaged in the oil business between the United States and Canada, up to 1878. At this latter date the Colonel returned to Whitehall, and has since continuously devoted himself to the hotel business with prosperous results. During his busy career he has energetically made and unfortunately lost several fortunes. Five children blessed the home, three now living. Ella is the wife of J. W. Ocobock, Jr., teller of the Whitehall Savings Bank; William J. and Wordwell B. are connected with their father in the hotel business. September 21, 1892, the estimable wife and mother passed to her rest, mourned by a large circle of sincere friends.

Politically, Col. Watson is a Republican, and is a prominent Grand Army man. From his position in the post at Whitehall, our subject received his title, by which he is known far and wide. He is a valued member of the Knights of Honor and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a Master Mason. A man of broad and generous soul, he commands the confidence and esteem of all his fellow-townsmen and a large contingent of the traveling public.



**J**OHAN M. CORNELIUS, a successful general agriculturist and fruit-grower of Ottawa County, Mich., recently re-elected, is now serving his seventh year as Justice of the Peace, and for many years, as School Inspector, has given valuable aid in the advancement of educational interests. The father of our subject, William Cornelius, a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and born in about 1805, was, on the paternal side, a descendant of English ancestors, his maternal forefathers being sturdy and industrious Germans. One hundred and fifty-two years ago, upon Long Island, the branch of the Cornelius family to which our subject belongs made their home. The father remained in the county of his birth until, at the age of twenty-one, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Wood, with whom he then removed to Wayne County, of the Empire State, and for six years made his residence in that locality. He then settled in Monroe County, in the town of Rush, twelve miles south of Rochester, and for three years sojourned there. At the expiration of that time he emigrated to Michigan and settled temporarily in Oakland County in 1851. At the close of a twelvemonth he removed to Adrian, Lenawee County, where he died at a comparatively early age. He was a farmer, and spent the latter years of his life in tilling the soil, but up to twenty-five years of age prosperously conducted the shoe business. His family consisted of four daughters and one son, all of whom,

surviving, are, with the exception of our subject, residing upon farms in Lenawee County, Mich.

John M. Cornelius was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., and remained there until about two years of age. He later accompanied his parents to the West, locating in Michigan shortly after attaining his majority. He was primarily educated in the district schools of western New York, and completed his studies in the seminary at Luna, N. Y., afterward, at the age of nineteen years, engaging in the profession of teaching. After teaching for seven terms and giving satisfaction as an instructor, he later held a position in Adrian College for one year as Professor of Science and Mathematics.

Mr. Cornelius entered the estate of matrimony in Oakland County, Mich., there being united in marriage with Miss Anna P. Russell, a teacher of Detroit and daughter of well-known residents of Long Island. Our subject, married at the age of twenty-five, then engaged in the manufacture of shoes in Adrian, Mich., and remained in the latter city fourteen years. Abandoning the shoe business on account of failing health, Mr. Cornelius, in 1887, located on his present homestead, and entered into agricultural pursuits, prosperously cultivating a fine variety of fruit. Originally owning three hundred and forty-six acres, he has since disposed of one hundred and five acres, and on the two hundred and forty-one remaining profitably raises a large variety of products, and furnishes for shipment some of the finest peaches and apples grown in the State. The four sons and two daughters of the household are Charles S., William R., Anna Maria, Mary Bertha, Louis Alexis and Harold Comfort. Bertha is a successful teacher in Grand Rapids. Anna Maria is married. Charles is a skillful mechanic of Grand Rapids. William is a railroad man and now resides in Chicago. Louis is in the wholesale business in Chicago. Harold has for the past two years been in Chicago, engaged in steam and gas fitting.

Mr. Cornelius is the present Secretary of the School Board, and, an ardent friend to extended education, has materially aided in the advancement of the scholarship and methods of instruction in the district schools of his home county.

Our subject and his worthy wife and their family, except the youngest sons, are all professors of religion, and are valued members of the Congregational Church and take a leading part in the social and benevolent enterprises of that denomination. Politically a Republican from the organization of the party, Mr. Cornelius is deeply interested in both local and national issues, and occupies a high place in the home councils of the party, where his executive ability and clear judgment are appreciated and fully recognized.



**R** ANDREW FLEMING, the efficient book-keeper of Smith, Nims, Hoyt & Erwin, the widely-known and prosperous law firm of Muskegon, Mich., has been for a quarter of a century a leading resident of the city, and for the two terms of 1889 and 1891 gave able service to the corporation as Alderman of the Fifth Ward. Our subject, a native of the city of Chicago, Ill., was born January 29, 1859, and is the son of William Fleming, born and reared in old Ireland, and the descendant of industrious and upright ancestors, whose useful influence insured them a high position in their native land. The father enjoyed excellent educational advantages, and, a young man of enterprise and ambition, emigrated to America and settled in New York City, where he profitably engaged in business as a contractor and builder. He later journeyed to the West and located in Chicago, which metropolis he made his home for twenty continuous years. At the expiration of this length of time, in 1868, he removed to Muskegon, and here prosperously engaged in contracting and building until the time of his death, in 1874.

During his years of residence in the latter city, Mr. Fleming, Sr., made a large acquaintance and many friends, by whom his death was sincerely mourned as a public loss. He was, politically, a Democrat, and a firm believer in the principles and platform

of the party. In early manhood William was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Alexander, and his estimable widow, yet surviving, continues her residence in Muskegon. Our subject, spending the days of his boyhood in his birthplace, attended the Chicago schools, and, accompanying his father to Muskegon when fourteen years of age, afterward was graduated with honor from the Muskegon High School, in the Class of '76. Immediately upon the completion of his studies, Mr. Fleming received employment from Frank H. Holbrook, with whom he remained for three years. Our subject then accepted a position in the office of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad, where he was engaged for some time. He later became book-keeper of the Hackley National Bank of Muskegon, and continued with that financial institution for a twelvemonth.

In 1881, entering upon the duties of his present position with one of the most prominent law firms of the Wolverine State—the partners widely known for their professional ability and success as pleaders at the Bar—Mr. Fleming received full charge of all the books of the firm, and is in reality the business manager. Politically a pronounced Republican and an ardent advocate of the “Party of Reform,” he has ever since attaining his majority entered with enthusiasm into all the vital issues of the day, and has been among the young Republicans of his home locality a leader. Possessed of executive ability and a fluent speaker, his presence in the political gatherings has animated the local party to renewed exertions and success. As the candidate of the Republican party for Alderman in 1889 and 1891, he proved a favorite, and in the conduct of public work won the renewed esteem of his constituents, in whose service he ever labored diligently. While a City Father, Mr. Fleming aided in the promotion of progressive interests and urged onward the march of improvement which is giving Muskegon a prominent place among the first cities of the Wolverine State. Our subject with his accomplished mother resides in the handsome family residence, No. 152 Terrace Street, and in business and social relations enjoys the confidence of a host of sincere friends.

**L** EONARD STICKNEY, by trade a carpenter and builder, and a successful general agriculturist and fruit-grower of Ottawa County, Mich., is one of the brave veterans of the late Civil War, and, an early resident and highly respected citizen of the Wolverine State, is widely known and highly esteemed by a large circle of old-time acquaintance. His father, David S. Stickney, a native of Vermont, attained to mature age in the Green Mountain State, and received a good education in the excellent schools of his birthplace. Arriving at manhood, he married, and later, with his wife, made his home in Canada, where he took up about five hundred acres of land, which he diligently cultivated, and made thereon substantial improvement. The following children gathered in the Canadian home: David, Jonathan, Parker and John. Later the father married Hannah Purse, by whom he had three children, Leonora, Elizabeth and Mary Ann. All of the brothers and sisters are now deceased with the exception of our subject, the father of the family having also passed to his rest in 1841, after a long life of busy and enterprising industry.

Our subject was born in Potten, Canada, and remained in the home of his childhood until he was nineteen years of age, well improving the advantages for instruction offered in the public schools of the Dominion. Beginning life for himself when less than twenty years of age, he journeyed to Wisconsin and made the Badger State his home for the succeeding thirty-three years, his principal occupation during this time being carpentering and building. On April 22, 1867, were united in marriage Leonard Stickney and Miss Charlotte Cook, a native of New York State, who, removing to the West, had settled in Wisconsin with her father and mother before the war. Our subject and his faithful helpmate have been blessed with the presence of three children, one, Willie, being deceased; Annie is the youngest-born and the only daughter; and Willard is the surviving son.

In 1861 Mr. Stickney entered the army and served under Gen. Buell, and actively participated in the battles of Murfreesboro, Nashville and many other hotly-contested fights of the campaign. Re-

turning home at the close of 1862, he remained for about six months, and then enlisted under Sheridan, and took part in all the engagements of the command, and shared the perils of the raid through the Shenandoah Valley. At the close of the war again returning to Wisconsin, Mr. Stickney continued his residence there until 1880, when he located permanently in Ottawa County, Mich., and purchased a valuable farm adjoining the city of Grand Haven. Upon the finely cultivated eighty-eight acres of this homestead our subject raises general farm produce and fruit, being especially successful as a horticulturist.

Mr. and Mrs. Stickney are both valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are efficient aids in all religious work. Financially prospered, our subject, aside from his homestead, owns valuable property in the city of Grand Haven, and is numbered among the substantial farmers of Ottawa County. Politically, he is a Democrat, and an ardent advocate of the principles and platform of the "Party of the People." Although never a politician or office-seeker, Mr. Stickney is intelligently interested in all the vital questions of the day, and thoroughly posted in local and national issues. Closely identified with the growth of enterprise in his own locality, he lends a helping hand in matters of public welfare, and is universally esteemed by all who know him.



**R** UDOLPH MUELLER, the well-known and enterprising dealer in jewelry, clocks and diamonds at No. 39 West Western Avenue, Muskegon, Mich., is one of the leading business men of the city, where for more than a quarter of a century, continuously residing and building up a fine trade, he has been intimately associated with the best interests and rapidly increasing growth of this part of the State. Mr. Mueller is a native of Switzerland and was born in the canton of Aargau May 8, 1842. He was the son of Daniel Mueller, also a native of Europe, who, reared

and educated in his birthplace, there attained to manhood, and, marrying, settled down amid the scenes of his youth. In 1854, when our subject was a lad of twelve years, the father emigrated to America and located in the State of Wisconsin, making his home in Milwaukee. The mother, Elizabeth (Huncicker) Mueller, passed her entire life in her native land and died in Switzerland, mourned by her family and many friends.

Our subject remained in his native land, received his education in the public schools in the canton of Aargau, and, well trained in the simple habits of thrifty economy and industry, at the age of eighteen embarked for the United States and at the close of a pleasant voyage landing in New York, proceeded thence to Milwaukee. Having previously acquired a thorough knowledge of the jeweler's trade in Switzerland, he secured employment without difficulty, and for two succeeding years worked at his trade. He then journeyed to Chicago, and in the Western metropolis received a position in which he continued for the two ensuing years. In 1866 he located permanently in Muskegon and opened his store, from the first enjoying an excellent trade and carrying a full and complete line of standard goods and diamonds, in the handling and selecting of which precious stones he is an acknowledged expert. Aside from jewelry, making a specialty of fine clocks and repairing, our subject has been able to meet the increasing demands of his business, now one of the best and longest established in its line of any house in the county.

In about a twelvemonth after his arrival in his present home, Rudolph Mueller and Miss Fredericka Lehman, of Grand Rapids, Mich., were united in marriage. The home of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the birth of seven children. They are in the order of their birth: Ely; Rosa; Rudolph, Jr.; William, Flora, Paul and Varena, bright and intelligent brothers and sisters, who will have ample opportunity given them for an extended education. Mr. and Mrs. Mueller reside in a beautiful home, of modern construction, which, surrounded by a well-kept garden, is one of the most attractive residences in Muskegon and is located on Delaware Street. Mrs. Mueller is a

valued member of the Congregational Church, and is a ready aid in good work and benevolent enterprise.

Politically a Democrat, our subject intelligently does his duty as a true American citizen, being well posted in both local and national affairs. Fraternally affiliating with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, he is a member of Lovell Moore Lodge No. 182, and is connected with Muskegon Chapter No. 47, R. A. M., also with Muskegon Commandery No. 22, K. T., and, enjoying the sincere esteem of all his fellow-citizens, has within the Masonic order many warm friends.



**O** C. WILLIAMS, M. D., a prominent physician and surgeon, who resides in a beautiful home delightfully situated on Muskegon Avenue, in the city of Muskegon, commands a large and rapidly extending field of practice, second to none in his locality. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., August 9, 1836. His father, the Rev. R. C. Williams, who was a gifted minister of the Gospel, was born in Wales and emigrated with his parents to the United States in early youth, and with them made his home in Philadelphia, Pa.

The paternal grandfather, a sturdy Welshman, was a man of sterling integrity and fine business attainments. The mother, Elizabeth Guthrie, daughter of Simeon Guthrie, was the descendant of an old family, whose devotion to the cause of truth and religion long subjected them to bitter persecution, the Guthries being of Huguenot ancestry. Dr. Williams passed the days of boyhood in his native State and county, receiving his preparatory education in the schools of his birthplace and enjoying the advantages of instruction in an excellent academy in Oneida County. At eighteen years of age he entered Hamilton College, from which well-known institution of learning he graduated with honor three years later.

Our subject, at twenty-one years of age, began studying medicine with Dr. J. H. Bergen, of Vi-



enna, N. Y., and took a course of lectures in the medical department of the New York University, receiving his diploma as an M. D. upon his graduation, in 1858. Immediately succeeding the completion of his studies, Dr. Williams for eight months practiced his profession in Beverly, N. Y. In the fall of 1858, attracted by the prospects of the West, he journeyed to Jackson, Mich., where, opening an office, he continued in the daily duties of his responsible profession until the breaking out of the war, in 1862 enlisting as surgeon in the navy.

In 1863, our subject enlisted in Company I, Twenty-seventh Michigan Cavalry of the Buell Corps, and, assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, became Commanding Surgeon of the Corps, and served on Buell's staff. In December, 1864, he was mustered out of the service and returned to Jackson, Mich., where he engaged in practice until 1866, when he made Muskegon his permanent home. Here entering upon an extended range of duty as a general practitioner as well as a skillful surgeon, the Doctor has been especially successful, and, financially prospered, owns valuable real estate aside from his handsome home, modern in design and finely finished. Our subject, who long ago invested in a highly-cultivated farm near Mona Lake, about five miles from Muskegon, has improved the beautifully located acres with a lovely summer home.

In 1858, O. C. Williams and Miss Helen W. Kinney, of Syracuse, N. Y., and the daughter of Julian Kinney, a well-known resident of the Empire State, were united in marriage. One son, John G., a citizen of Muskegon, blessed the union. The estimable wife passed away in 1889, and Dr. Williams, in January, 1891, married Miss Emma H. Tibbetts, a native of Plymouth, Mich., and an intelligent lady. Fraternaly associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, our subject is Junior Treasurer of Lowell Lodge No. 182, and is also connected with the Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons; he is likewise a member of the Council of Royal Select Masons and is a member of the Commandery of Knights Templar. For seven years Dr. Williams was a Prelate of the Council, and has received the highest rank attainable in this country,

being a Thirty-second Degree Mason. Our subject is identified with the Clinton County Consistory, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and possesses the confidence of a host of friends among the order.

Keeping up with the scientific research of the day, Dr. Williams is a leading member of the Muskegon Medical Society, is prominently connected with the State Medical Association, and affiliates with the National Medical Association. Our subject occupied the responsible position of City Physician four years, and for the same length of time ably discharged the multiform duties of County Physician. Although having already attained an enviable reputation in his profession, Dr. Williams allows himself but little time for rest or recreation, devoting himself with excellent results to the ills which flesh is heir to.



**M**OSES ROBINSON, an honored pioneer settler and prominent general agriculturist of Allendale Township, Ottawa County, Mich., has for the past forty-seven years been a continuous resident of the State, and, a man of broad intelligence, has during this time ably assisted in the promotion of the various enterprises and vital interests of his locality. Born in the State of New York, in the village of Glynville, August 12, 1836, he was only a lad of nine years when he accompanied his parents to the then far West of Michigan.

The father and mother, John and Ann (McGregor) Robinson, settled in Georgetown Township, locating on a farm. Not long after the family were attacked with chills and fever, and suffered terribly with the ague, then incidental to certain parts of the State. At the time of their settlement upon the homestead, there were no roads from Georgetown leading to the home farm, and the country roundabout was yet in its primitive state. Dr. Platt, of Grand Rapids, advised the removal of the family to Paris Township, Kent

County, where the father settled with his wife and children. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, a small portion of which he reclaimed from its unimproved condition, and then made an exchange with his son, trading farms and making his home upon one hundred and sixty acres, situated one mile east of Bowne Station.

The father, effecting a second trade with his son, removed to a valuable farm in this township, close to Allendale Centre, where he prosperously operated a farm of one hundred acres and erected a handsome and commodious residence, in which he continued to reside until his death, October 11, 1870. By his various settlements and removals, he probably aided in the clearing of more land than any other man of his times in the county, and was likewise foremost in the good works of the early days, taking an active interest in church and educational advancement. His good wife was also active in church work, and the two were among the influential citizens of the pioneer times. They did not come empty-handed into the State, the father being accounted a man of substance in New York and selling prior to his departure for the West a farm of two hundred and fifty acres for \$75 per acre. Aside from the old Michigan homestead, the father owned several farms at the time of his demise, among his other landed property being the fine one hundred and sixty acre farm upon which our subject now resides. This latter farm contained the first cabin ever erected in the township, and was purchased from Deacon Hensdale, who settled here about 1840.

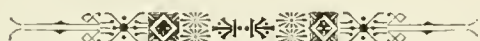
Unto the mother, who survived until 1880, were born eight children. James, John, Thomas and Horace are deceased; Moses is our subject; Ann, who was the wife of J. Stoddard, is deceased; Eve was the wife of Robert Scott; and Bathsheba, Mrs. William A. Balcom, is deceased. Our subject was mainly educated in Paris Township, but the schools of those days being very crude in their forms of instruction, Mr. Robinson has since supplemented the studies of youth by reading and close observation. He began life for himself at the age of twenty, when he married, but, remaining with his father the seven succeeding years, he and his excellent wife received for their services

the one hundred and sixty acres of land upon which they now make their home. When Mr. and Mrs. Robinson took possession of this property it was covered with a dense growth of timber. One hundred acres, now under a high state of cultivation, annually yield an abundant harvest, and the homestead is improved with attractive and commodious buildings. Our subject purchased one hundred and sixty additional acres, which he has since given to his sons, and, financially prospered, he erected upon the home place a handsome two-story residence, containing ten or twelve rooms, all pleasantly arranged. The barns and outhouses in size and finish are second to none in the locality and present a scene of thrift and prosperity.

October 25, 1856, were united in marriage Moses Robinson and Miss Mary J. Balcom, a native of Jackson County, Mich., and daughter of Johnson and Oriza (Avery) Balcom, early settlers of Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Balcom, widely known and highly esteemed, were the parents of six children. Marinda, deceased, was the wife of J. Scott; Sarah is the wife of H. Simons; Delia Ann, deceased, was the wife of William Allen; Mary J. (Mrs. Robinson), Justus and William A. complete the list. At the time that Johnson Balcom located upon his farm in Allendale, in 1848, the surrounding country was a wilderness and settlers were few. He devoted his attention to clearing and cultivating his land, and made his home there until the time of his death, in 1887. During the early days of the settlement of his community, he was widely known as a prominent Sunday-school worker, and not infrequently walked a distance of fourteen miles in order to hold a Sunday-school, and also for the purpose of exhorting, as ministers of the Gospel were at that time scarce.

Our subject and his estimable wife, occupying a high position of useful influence, have been blessed by the birth of eleven sons and daughters, as follows: William A., a resident of the State; James; Simon; Amos; Lillie, who is married; John M.; Elizabeth, the wife of Herbert Bretherton, of Grand Rapids; Rebecca, Vina, Abram and Hiram. These brothers and sisters, widely known, command the esteem and confidence of many

friends and have enjoyed excellent opportunities for educational advancement. Our subject is fraternally associated with Coopersville Lodge No. 122, A. F. & A. M., and is likewise a member of the Grange. Politically a strong Republican, Mr. Robinson takes a deep interest in both local and National Government and is a sincere friend and neighbor, a business man of undoubted ability, and a true and loyal citizen.



**J**ARED D. WETMORE, M. D. In the brief and imperfect outline we are able to give in this sketch of the history of one of the most prominent men of Holland, we can do little more than merely glance at the principal events with which he has been connected and identified as an eminent physician and surgeon and progressive citizen. The life and character of Dr. Wetmore, who has risen from an humble position by his own unaided efforts to a place of honor and distinction among men, proves a useful lesson to the youth of this county, and adds another striking illustration of the power of determined purpose and perseverance.

The homeopathic system of practice has an ardent advocate and supporter in Dr. Wetmore, who is a practitioner of this school of medicine. As a specialist in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, he has attained distinction throughout the State, and his extensive practice demands his constant attention. His office in Holland is equipped with a complete assortment of surgical instruments, and he keeps abreast with every advance made in the profession which his life and talents adorn.

Born in South Creek, Bradford County, Pa., April 8, 1858, our subject is the son of George Wetmore, an attorney-at-law in the Keystone State. He was reared in De Kalb, Ill., until the age of fourteen years, and then removed to Sand Lake, Kent County, Mich., where he engaged in milling for about five years. Under the preceptorship of Dr. Wills, of Sand Lake, he commenced

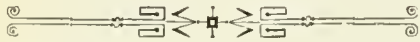
the study of medicine, remaining with that gentleman for about four years, after which he took a course of lectures in the medical department of the State University, at Ann Arbor. He opened an office for the practice of his profession at Kalkaskia, in northern Michigan, and after remaining there for one year returned to college and took another course of lectures, graduating in the spring of 1880.

After graduating the young Doctor located at Rockford, Kent County, Mich., and remained in that city for one and a-half years. From there he went to Chicago, and took a course in the new school of medicine at Hahnemann College, graduating in 1882. Upon the completion of his studies, he located in Malta, De Kalb County, Ill., where he conducted an extensive practice until the spring of 1882. Removing from there to Storm Lake, Iowa, he bought the practice of a physician in that place, and continued there with great success for two years. He then returned to Michigan, and opened an office in Grand Rapids, remaining there until his removal to Holland, in October, 1886. At the time of locating here, he was the only homeopathic physician in the county, and he has built up an extensive practice in this and adjoining counties.

In 1877 the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Qanthia Willett, daughter of Dr. George Willett, a practicing physician of Sand Lake, this State. They are the parents of two daughters: Regina, and Georgia, who is attending Vincent's Academy, at Cincinnati. Dr. Wetmore has a natural talent for music and painting, and has no less than seventy-five large paintings, his own work, which prove his ability as an artist. At the age of sixteen he was leader of a string and cornet band.

Thrown upon his own resources at the age of eleven, our subject is justly entitled to be called a self-made man. The money with which he paid his way through college was earned by hard work in the mill and on the farm. His practice extends over a territory eighteen miles south, ten miles north and six and one-half west. In his religious views he is very liberal. Politically, he is a Democrat, and has been an active worker in the

ranks of the party. He has served as United States Examining Surgeon for the Northwestern portion of Iowa, and is now officiating in that capacity in the Ancient Order of United Workmen. By his industry and good management he has acquired considerable valuable property, some of which is in Holland, and some in Duluth. A pleasant and affable gentleman, his friends are as numerous as his acquaintances, and he enjoys the confidence of all with whom business or social relations bring him in contact.



**M**AX LANGE, Deputy County Treasurer of Muskegon, and the owner of considerable property in this section of Michigan, inherits the thrift and enterprise of a long line of German ancestors. Himself a native of the Fatherland, he was born in Bromberg November 15, 1850, being a son of Louis and Paulina (Braune) Lange. His boyhood years were uneventfully passed in his father's home, and he was early trained to habits of industry and usefulness. He acquired in the common schools near his home a practical education, fitting him for a business career.

In 1870 the family emigrated to the United States, and after landing in New York proceeded to Michigan and located in Muskegon, where the father still lives. The mother remained here until her death, in 1892. They were the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters, of whom Max is the eldest. He early became familiar with farming pursuits, to which he gave his attention for some time. Afterward he was employed in the city of Muskegon, receiving a salary of \$2 per day, and later worked as a laborer for one season in Berrien County. He entered into partnership with M. Kaehbrig in the grocery business, and afterward was engaged in that trade with other parties in this State, also conducting the business alone for two years.

Returning to Muskegon in 1880, Mr. Lange

embarked in the insurance business, which he has continued until the present time. He also carries on large and extensive real-estate transactions, and has sold valuable lots in the city. To his efforts the advancement of Muskegon along the lines of material, as well as moral, improvement and growth may be justly attributed, together with the labors of many public-spirited and progressive citizens. He takes a deep interest in every measure having for its object the welfare of the people, and contributes his quota toward the progress of the city.

The marriage of Mr. Lange occurred in 1881, and united him with Miss Emma E. B. Kittredge, of Ludington, Mich. They are the parents of two children. On the 1st of January, 1893, Mr. Lange entered upon the duties of the Deputy Treasurership, to which he had been appointed, and in which he is now rendering acceptable service. In his social connections he is identified with Muskegon Lodge No. 140, A. F. & A. M. Keen and discriminating in judgment, a man of resource and ability, he has gained the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



**R**OBERT G. LAMOREAUX. One of the most important and successful enterprises of Fruitport is that which was inaugurated by Mr. Lamoreaux in October, 1888, and has been prosperously conducted by him since that time. In his mercantile establishment he carries a complete assortment of dry goods, modern in style and unexceptional in quality. The reliability of his business transactions, the superiority of his stock, and the reasonable prices at which the goods are offered for sale, have secured for him the confidence of his customers, and he has a large trade, aggregating over \$10,000 annually. The value of his stock is estimated at \$4,000.

Born in Van Buren County, Mich., November 26, 1868, our subject is the son of Robert and

Maria (Cooper) Lamoreaux, both of whom were born in New York. After their marriage, which took place in that State, they emigrated to Michigan, and settled in Kalamazoo, where they resided for a short time. Returning thence to New York, they made a short sojourn in their former home, but shortly afterward removed to Van Buren County, Mich., where they remained for a number of years. Somewhat later they came to Fruitport, where the wife and mother passed away. In May, 1891, the father removed to Alabama, where he is now working at his trade as a foundryman. The paternal grandfather of our subject, William Lamoreaux, was of French descent, as the family name indicates.

In the parental family there are four children, the others besides our subject being Daniel, a book-keeper with the Grand Rapids Brass Company; Minnie L; and Mary, who married Byron Beerman, an engineer on the Goodrich Line, running between Muskegon and Chicago. Robert G., of this sketch, was reared in Van Buren County, Mich., receiving his primary education in the schools near his father's home. After coming to Fruitport, he prosecuted his studies for a time in the schools of this village, and gained a practical education, which admirably qualified him for business life.

After working in the employ of his father for a few years, Mr. Lamoreaux embarked in the business in which he now engages. An energetic business man, possessing sound judgment and common-sense, he has always made a success in his mercantile enterprise, and occupies a prominent position among the business men of the county. In addition to the management of his establishment, he devotes considerable attention to public affairs, and is one of the most prominent young Republicans in the vicinity of Fruitport. For some time he held the office of Town Clerk, and is now President of the village. In the last-named position he displays the same wise judgment characteristic of his business enterprises, and his efficient services have been of great assistance in developing the resources of the place.

A very important event in the life of Mr. Lamoreaux was his marriage, which occurred at Spring Lake, November 13, 1890, his bride being Miss

Maude Barnes, of Muskegon County. Mrs. Lamoreaux is the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Barnes, who now reside in Fruitport. She is a lady of education, possessing a genial courtesy of manner and generosity of disposition, and is highly respected in the community. In his social connection, Mr. Lamoreaux affiliates with the Knights of the Maccabees, being prominently identified with the lodge at Fruitport.



**W**ILLIAM EDWARD MOORE, a leading and representative citizen of Muskegon County, and the present representative of Eggleston Township upon the County Board of Supervisors, was born in Neyland, Luzerne County, Pa., on Christmas Day of 1859. His parents, William and Esther (Johnson) Moore, were natives respectively of the States of Pennsylvania and New York, and some years after their marriage came to Michigan, in 1864. For a time they sojourned in Oakland County, and thence removed to Shiawassee County, locating in Vernon Township, where the senior Mr. Moore was engaged at the trade of a wagon-maker for about eleven years.

From Shiawassee County Mr. Moore came to Muskegon County, and located in 1885 upon a farm in Eggleston Township. This place was destined to be the last home of both himself and his good wife. There in 1886, she closed her eyes upon the scenes of time, to open them again on the shores of eternity. He survived her demise for a few months, and then, on the 27th of August, 1887, passed to his final reward. During his existence, covering a period of three-score years and six, he accomplished much on behalf of his fellow-men and was instrumental in promoting the progress of the various communities where he resided. His interests, however, centered in his home, and his domestic life was one of happiness and mutual helpfulness.

The second among three children, William Edward Moore was quite small when he was brought by his parents to Michigan, and here he grew to man's estate. At the age of twelve he commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter, and, having a natural inclination for this business, he soon became very proficient in his work and in a short time started in business for himself. Success rewarded his industrious efforts, and from carpentering he gradually enlarged his business until he became a contractor and jobber, in which line he was also efficient and capable. In 1885 he purchased the farm in Eggleston Township upon which he has since made his home.

A very important event in the life of Mr. Moore was his marriage, which occurred on the 18th of November, 1881, and united him with Miss Mary A., daughter of James and Eleanor (Best) Barry, natives respectively of Ireland and the State of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Moore are the parents of five children, four of whom are now living, Beulah, Charles, Clyde and Edward. In his political belief, Mr. Moore is a Republican and takes an active interest in political affairs, both local and national. For two years he has filled the position of Township Clerk, and he is now serving his fourth year as Supervisor. He is also one of the committee on the construction of gravel road between Muskegon and Grand Rapids. His course in life has been such as to win for him the warm friendship of his associates, and he justly merits the high regard in which he is held.



**J**AMES D. EDWARD, an energetic and prosperous business man, for some length of time County and Township Grain Commissioner, has for about seventeen years been intimately associated with the growth and progress of Grand Haven Township, Ottawa County, Mich. His father, George Edward, was a native of Scotland, and remained during his entire life within the boundaries of his native country.

Our subject was born in sturdy Scotland in 1856, and spent the days of boyhood and early youth in his birthplace, but at twenty years of age, eager, hopeful and ambitious, he set sail for America. Arriving in 1876, he at once journeyed to Michigan, and, settling in the village of Agnew, then Johnville, located in the southern part of Grand Haven Township, has since made that part of the State his permanent home.

Mr. Edward received a good common-school education in the public schools of Scotland, and, early trained to habits of thrifty industry, had as a capital upon which to begin life, a stranger in a strange land, only his natural ability and earnest self-reliance. From sixteen years of age he had been self-supporting, then leaving school. Soon emigrating to Ottawa County, he received employment in a sawmill, and manufactured fruit crates and baskets in the village of Agnew.

Mr. Edward was the youngest of a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, who were in the order of their birth as follows: George, Jennie, Tibbie, John, Joseph, Alexander, Mary and James D. Joseph, Alexander and Edward came to this country previous to their brother James D., and Tibbie, Mrs. Boyd, emigrated from her native land to this country in the year 1892, with her husband and children. John and Mary yet reside in Scotland. Jennie is deceased. George makes his home in Australia.

In 1880, in Van Buren County, Mich., were united in marriage James D. Edward and Miss Cynthia Munger. Their pleasant home has been brightened by the birth of four bright and promising children, one son and three daughters: Tibbie, George, Rheba and Nicola. The brothers and sisters will all enjoy the benefit of an extended education, and, receiving from their energetic ancestors the bequest of integrity of character, industrious thrift and firm purpose to succeed in life, cannot fail to make their upward way and become worthy of any positions of trust to which they may be called.

Immediately after his arrival in Grand Haven Township, Mr. Edward, although young in years, at once identified himself with all matters of public welfare, and, enjoying the respect and confi-

dence of all with whom he becomes acquainted, has received various local offices, whose duties he has ever discharged with prompt and faithful efficiency. As Township and County Grain Commissioner he gave especially acceptable service to his fellow-townsmen. Politically a Republican, our subject takes an active part in the local councils of the party, by whom he has been elected numerous times to office. The parents of our subject were members of the old Scotch Free Church, and trained their sons and daughters to an observance of religious duties. Mr. Edward, however, is not connected with any denomination, although his preference is for the Unitarian Church, to which his excellent wife belongs. A kind friend and neighbor, an excellent citizen, loyal and true, our subject, together with his family, possesses the best wishes of a host of friends.



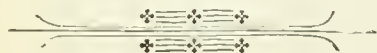
**G**ERRIT ROOKS, a successful general farmer, now occupying with ability the office of Highway Commissioner of Holland Township, Ottawa County, Mich., is pleasantly located upon section 36, where he has long prosperously cultivated a fine homestead, annually yielding an abundant harvest. Our subject, a native of the kingdom of the Netherlands and born in the year 1842, was the son of Gerrit H. and Catherine (Hesling) Rooks. The parents were likewise both natives of the Netherlands, in which country the father was born in 1802, and the mother in 1809. The paternal and maternal ancestors, hard-working, intelligent and upright people, by their earnest and persistent toil thriftily gained for themselves and their descendants the necessities of life, but very few of them in their native land ever acquired a competence. The father was by occupation a farmer, and was a wood-sawyer by trade, sawmills in his primitive neighborhood being almost unknown. Being a man of limited means, he owned no real-estate, but rented land. In 1856, the father emigrated with his wife and six chil-

dren to the United States and for forty-two days the family, on board a sailing vessel, were tossing upon the broad Atlantic.

Two of the children had previously crossed the ocean and settled in Michigan, in which locality the parents contemplated making their future home, but their money having given out they were obliged to remain a few months in New York, where the father was enabled by hard work to replenish his empty pocket-book, and the family proceeded at once upon their way to the farther West. The eight sons and daughters of the parents were in order of their birth: Albert, Gerrit and Lyda, all deceased; Minnie, Gertrude, John, Gerrit, and one who died young. The father had married previously to his marriage to the mother of our subject, and by the first wife became the father of two children, John Henry and Hannah. The father was a devout member of the old Dutch Reformed Church and was respected by all who knew him. When he came to Holland he made his home with his eldest son, Albert. He died regretted by many friends, his wife surviving him only one year. Our subject received his education mainly in the Old Country and enjoyed one year's schooling in the United States.

Mr. Rooks, beginning life for himself, worked out by the month on various farms, and with thrifty prudence gaining a small capital married when about twenty-two years of age Miss Minnie Naber, and unto him and his estimable wife have been born seven sons and daughters, who are in the order of their birth: Peter, Henry, John, Anna, Katie, Albert and Minnie. Of these children three have completed their studies in the excellent schools of Holland, and Anna is now teaching successfully. Two of the sons are in the far West, one living in North Dakota, the other residing in South Dakota. Immediately succeeding his marriage, Mr. Rooks purchased eighty heavily timbered acres where he now lives, and was obliged to go in debt for the same. To-day, cleared, highly cultivated and improved with a good residence, barns and sheds, the homestead is one of the best in this locality. Our subject owns ninety acres, all under profitable cultivation and presenting a scene of thrift and plenty. Mr. Rooks is a valued

member of the Ebenezer Reformed Church and for fifteen years held an Eldership. Politically a Republican, Mr. Rooks has ably discharged the duties of various school offices and made a most efficient Highway Commissioner, giving great satisfaction to all his fellow-townsmen.



**R**ODERICK J. MACDONALD, who is serving as United States Commissioner at Muskegon, is a Canadian by birth. He was born in Prescott, Ontario, Canada, on the 4th of October, 1852, and is a son of Archibald and Harriet (Jackson) Macdonald. The father was a farmer by occupation and also a manufacturer. In 1874 he came with his family to Michigan, locating in Muskegon, where his death occurred in 1877. His wife, who survives him, has since married B. A. Cross, and now resides in South Haven, Mich.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest of a family of nine children. He was reared to manhood in the place of his nativity, and there acquired his education. After leaving school he began reading law with Thomas Deacon, of Quebec, Canada. He came with his parents to Michigan in 1874, and in March, 1875, was admitted to the Bar in Muskegon. Here he at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession, to which he has devoted the greater part of his time and attention since, practicing in all the courts, local, State and federal. His abilities, natural and acquired, have placed him in the front rank among his professional brethren. He is an able advocate, a logical thinker, a clear reasoner, and, thoroughly understanding the evidence, is quick to grasp a point, and has therefore won success.

On the 13th of September, 1877, Mr. Macdonald was united in marriage with Miss Mary Chamberlain, of West Michigan, formerly of Ontario, Canada. She died August 24, 1889, leaving one

child, since deceased. Mr. Macdonald was again married, July 13, 1892, his second union being with Lottie E. Worrall, of Muskegon. They reside at No. 24 Sanford Street, and are prominent and representative people of the community, having a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

In politics Mr. Macdonald affiliates with the Republican party, and supports its men and measures. In 1883 he was appointed Deputy United States Commissioner under James Wethey for the Western District of Michigan, and afterward was appointed United States Commissioner at Muskegon, which office he is creditably and acceptably filling. In 1876 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and held that office for a period of four years. He was a prominent candidate before the Republican Convention for the position of Circuit Judge, but was defeated by a small majority. In whatever office he has been called upon to fill he has always discharged his duty with promptness and fidelity, never betraying the trust reposed in him. In the community where he has now made his home for an extended period he is widely known, and his upright career has gained him the respect of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



**H**ENRY JEKEL. For many years, or since boyhood, Mr. Jekel has given the occupation of farming his principal time and attention, and that a lifetime spent in pursuing one calling will result in substantial success, especially if energy and perseverance are applied, is particularly true in his case. Mr. Jekel is a self-made man in all that the words imply, and has known the demands of poverty, but his honesty, energy and "stick-to-it-iveness" have brought their rewards, which he and his family are now enjoying. His birth occurred in the Netherlands in 1825, to the union of John and Liban Jekel, natives also of that country.

The father of our subject followed the pursuit



of farming, and for some time was a day laborer. He was not very successful in that occupation, and, led by the promises of the Western lands of this country, he determined to brave Neptune's tender mercies and seek a home in the United States. Receiving some assistance from friends, he made the voyage with his wife and two children in the year 1847, and came direct to Ottawa County, Mich., where he bought forty acres of land on section 14, Holland Township. While on his way to this county he stopped at Indian Village, where his wife and children were sick for many months. His land was covered with heavy timber, and he lost no time in going to work to clear and improve it. At a time when the fruits of his labor began to show, or a few years after moving there, he passed away at the age of fifty-six. His wife followed him to the grave a few years later.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in his native country, and he there received a good common-school education. When but ten years of age he hired out to earn money for the support of the family, and he saw very few idle days from that time on. In 1846, during the month of October, he took passage for America, reaching the United States on Christmas Day, after being on the ocean sixty-five days. The vessel encountered many storms, and several times it was thought that she would go to the bottom. Young Jekel reached the United States with little money and \$40 in debt, a kind friend loaning him that amount previous to starting. He first located near Albany and went to work on a farm, remaining there nearly a year. In October, 1847, he came to Michigan and located in Ottawa County, where he worked out for several years.

By industry and economy Mr. Jekel accumulated sufficient means to buy a farm, and in 1849 he was married to Miss Jane Harms. He is now the owner of eighty acres of fine land and is one of the industrious, enterprising men of the township. His land was wild when he first settled on it, but energy and perseverance accomplished wonders in his case. Mr. Jekel is a member of the Reformed Church and takes a deep interest in its progress, as he does in all other enterprises of

moment. His marriage resulted in the birth of two children, John and Jennie. The latter married John Barkel, and several children were born to them. Mrs. Barkel died, and one of her children, Jennie, has been taken by our subject to rear. In his political views our subject is a Democrat. He and his brother John are the only ones living of five children born to his parents. These children were in the order of their births as follows: Ella, deceased; Henry and Albert (twins), the latter dying at the age of eighteen; John and William.



**M**L. WESTON, M. D., one of Ottawa County's most talented young professional men, and a member of a family that has given to Michigan some of its most skillful physicians and surgeons, has been engaged for a year or more in the practice of the medical profession at Jenison, being the only physician at this place. His practice is not limited to the residents of the village, but extends throughout the surrounding country, where he has the confidence of his patients and the esteem of the public in general.

The paternal grandfather of the Doctor was Harry Weston, a native of New York, and a very early settler in Michigan. The maternal grandfather, John Shafer, who enlisted during the War of 1812, participated in many of the most important battles of that conflict with the British, and was taken prisoner at Detroit, under Gen. Hull. Our subject's father, Dr. A. H. Weston, was born in Clinton County, Mich., and upon attaining manhood's years studied medicine under an uncle, Daniel T. Weston, of Dansville, Mich. Later he entered the Detroit College of Medicine, from which he was graduated in the Class of '74.

At the opening of the Civil War, Dr. Weston enlisted as a member of the Seventh Michigan Cavalry, and from the ranks was promoted to the position of Hospital Steward. For three years and two months he was in active service in the Union

army, and although at the front in numerous engagements, he escaped without being wounded, with the exception of a slight injury received from a piece of shell. He married Miss Martha M. Shafer, and their union was blessed by the birth of two children, our subject and Fay A. The latter married Miss Eva Densmore, who resides at Stanton Junction, Mich.

After his marriage, which occurred in Michigan, the father of our subject settled in Ingham County and remained there for two years, removing thence to Kent County in the year 1868. He has since made his home in the village of Grandville, of which he is the most prominent physician. He is also prominently identified with the social and political affairs of the county, and is an active member of the Masonic order and Custer Post, G. A. R., of Grand Rapids, having for three years filled the position of Master of the former order. In politics he is independent, casting his ballot for the best principles and the best man, irrespective of party ties. He has served as Township Clerk and in other official capacities.

The subject of this sketch was born in Dansville, Ingham County, Mich., on the 28th of December, 1866. He received his education in the common and High schools of Grandville, and having resolved to follow the profession in which his father had gained distinction, he began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of his father. Later he took a course of lectures in the Detroit College of Medicine, graduating in 1889. He at once commenced the active practice of his profession, and for three years was associated with his father in partnership. In April, 1892, he came to Jenison, and is now closely identified with the rapidly developing interests of this place.

In his social relations the Doctor affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, holding membership with Kent Lodge No. 332, at Grandville, of which he is Past Grand. Both he and his father are members of the Grand River Valley Medical Society, of which the former has been Treasurer, and the latter Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President and President. It is worthy of note that our subject, his father and two uncles,

Dr. Daniel T. Weston, of Dansville, and Dr. Marion J. Shafer, of Grand Rapids, are all graduates of the Detroit Medical College of Medicine. Dr. Shafer was also a soldier in the late war, and a member of the Seventh Michigan Cavalry.



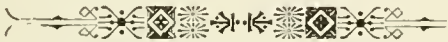
**O**SCAR SANDERS. Prominent among the capable and efficient agriculturists of Ottawa County stands the name of Mr. Sanders, who follows farming pursuits upon section 25, Robinson Township. He is the son of Joseph and Mary (Sampson) Sanders, natives of the Empire State, both of whom died there, the father on the 12th of March, 1861, and the mother twenty years previous to his demise. Alike as an energetic and industrious farmer, and in military service as a soldier during the War of 1812, Mr. Sanders, Sr., was a man who won the respect of his associates, and his death, at an advanced age, removed from our country one of its most valiant defenders in time of war, and most public-spirited citizens in time of peace.

The youngest of a family of six children, Oscar Sanders was born in Brown County, N. Y., on the 19th of December, 1829. In the Empire State he received the advantages of a common-school education, and there, also, he gained much of the knowledge of agriculture which he has since put to practical use. At the age of fifteen he went to Gratiot County, Mich., and there resided for a period of seven years. Later he made his home in Lamont, Ottawa County, for three years, and afterward settled on the place where he has since resided.

At the time of purchasing this property, May 5, 1870, the land was densely wooded, and few improvements had been made. In the years that have since come and gone, substantial buildings have been erected, forty acres have been cleared and placed under high cultivation, fences have been built, the soil has been fertilized, and modern

farming machinery introduced. Mr. Sanders has met with his share of misfortunes, not the least of which was the destruction of his residence with all its contents, the result of fire. However, another dwelling, equally substantial, has replaced the old house.

In Tompkins County, N. Y., in 1862, occurred the marriage of Mr. Sanders and Miss Harriet Foster, a native of New York. They are the parents of five children. In their religious connections, Mr. Sanders and his accomplished wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which they are generous contributors. Socially, he affiliates with the Sons of Temperance. Politically, he is prominent in the councils of his chosen party in this section. His first Presidential ballot was cast for Gen. Scott in 1852. He is a man whose entire course in life has been in every respect honorable, upright and conscientious, and he is justly entitled to the respect of his associates and the love of his friends.



**A**LOYS BILZ, a prominent citizen of Ottawa County, Mich., now prosperously handling real estate, insurance and merchandise in Spring Lake, is a successful business man, and has for twenty-seven years been identified with the various leading enterprises of his present locality. Mr. Bilz is a native of Germany. His parents, Joseph and Margaret (Haberhorn) Bilz, were both born in Bavaria, and were reared, educated and attained to adult age in the home of their youth. Their family of three sons and seven daughters received all the advantages they could give them, both in the common schools and higher educational institutions, and grew up energetic, industrious and ambitious. When the three eldest arrived at mature years they decided to try their fortunes in the land of promise beyond the sea, and together emigrated to America. The reports they sent back to their old home and par-

ents were so encouraging that in the year 1849 the father, mother and seven remaining children embarked for the United States. Safely reaching Quebec, they soon located in Buffalo, N. Y., where the parents reared and educated the younger members of the family. Here the mother died in the fall of 1866, and the father in the spring of 1867, and the eldest son, Christopher J. Bilz, a prominent business man of the city of Buffalo, soon followed them to the grave. The next son, Frank, well known in Detroit and throughout Michigan, died in the city of Ionia, Mich., August 20, 1889. One daughter is deceased, one resides in Philadelphia, Pa., and five with their families still live in the city of Buffalo.

Our subject was born July 2, 1811, attended a private school in Buffalo, and St. Vincent's College in Westmoreland County, Pa., and at the age of thirteen learned the trade of a tinner in New Hamburg, Ontario, and thus fitted himself for a future of self-reliant effort. In the year 1853 he settled in Michigan, at first making his home in Detroit, where he entered into business, finding ready employment at his trade. After a time he removed to New Baltimore, Macomb County, and in the year 1864 was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Thompson, daughter of Rev. O. C. Thompson, of Detroit, Mich. In 1866, our subject came to Spring Lake and engaged in the hardware and furniture business, rapidly extending the territory of his trade, one of the best in this section of the country. Soon after, becoming interested in the real estate of his locality, Mr. Bilz achieved gratifying results in handling large amounts of land, and, possessed of unusual executive ability, has rapidly made his upward way. In 1871, a disastrous fire destroyed most of his property, but with tireless energy, hope and determination he set himself resolutely to regaining lost ground. Among the enterprises in whose promotion Mr. Bilz has taken an active part was the founding and conducting of the Spring Lake *Republican*, a bright, newsy paper, and for a number of years he was the proprietor of the Forest City *Press*, at Forest City, S. Dak.

In 1861 the name of Aloys Bilz was enrolled in the only regiment of lancers organized in the

State, but, the regiment being disbanded, our subject saw none but recruiting service. Mr. and Mrs. Bilz have been blessed by the birth of seven children: Fannie G., Margaret J., Bessie E., Mamie E., Alice A., William A., and one son deceased. Mrs. Bilz and all her children are members of the Presbyterian Church and are active in the good work and benevolent enterprises of that denomination. Mr. Bilz is a staunch Republican, and has held with efficiency for many years the responsible position of Supervisor. He was elected Register of Deeds of his county, and, occupying the office for one term, gave great satisfaction to all with whom he transacted the business of his department.

Our subject was for four years the popular President of Spring Lake, and as a member of the Board of Education gave excellent service in behalf of educational advancement. As an insurance agent Mr. Bilz represented the following well-known companies: the Phœnix, of Hartford; the Continental, of New York; and the Fireman's Fund of San Francisco; and with his other business he also combined the local agency of the American Express Company. He has for twenty-six years been a Trustee of the Presbyterian Church, and, leading a useful and busy life, yet finds time to engage with a liberal spirit in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the general public.



**W**ESLEY F. WOOD, the subject of this sketch, a citizen of Muskegon, Mich., stands prominently among those leading citizens to whom the city owes its advancement, morally, intellectually and financially. Coming to this part of the State when Muskegon was a mere hamlet, a small village of few inhabitants, isolated from the rest of the world, without roads, streets, schools or churches, he has lived and labored to see the early crudities of the pioneer grow into the large and well-developed city of to-day, possessing all the facilities, appliances and advantages of a great manufacturing and commercial metropolis. His career is an example of the success that comes to

those who strive, and not as the result of chance, but of long-continued, persistent and well-directed effort. He was born June 18, 1823, in Essex County, in the State of New York, the son of Jonas B. Wood and Hannah (Reed) Wood, the father a native of Massachusetts, the mother of New York. Both parents were of English descent. Mrs. Wood was the daughter of Abraham Reed, who was also a native of the Empire State.

The subject of this sketch, who was the youngest of nine children, received the rudiments of an education in the district school of his native place, but later secured a good academic education. At an early age he removed to the city of New York, where he remained in mercantile pursuits until 1849, when, on account of poor health, he removed to Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County, N. Y. There he remained until 1857, when he turned his face westward and came to Michigan, locating in Muskegon, where he had some interests, and where he devoted himself chiefly to the real-estate business, city and suburban. Upright, honorable and reliable, he has always stood as one of Muskegon's representative business men and has won a fair share of both favor and fortune.

In 1852 our subject was married to Sarah G. Scott, of New York City, daughter of William Scott, of Scottish parentage. Three children were born to them in Hopkinton, N. Y., only one of whom, Frank, survives, who inherits his father's excellent qualities, and who has for a good many years been a banker in Muskegon.

In politics our subject is a staunch Republican, thoroughly believing in the principles of sound finance and of protection to home industries, and voting with his party as often as it has been true to its principles. Wide-awake and public-spirited, he has been a standard-bearer, and has contributed liberally to the support of all worthy movements, both public and private. In religious matters, he takes a deep interest, and has been a member and office-bearer in the Congregational Church from the time of its organization, in 1859. Well may the growth and enlargement of that church from its original charter membership of thirteen to its present membership of three hundred afford him the chiefest satisfaction of his life.

Mr. Wood's highest title is that of "good citizen." Modest, manly, unassuming and retiring, shunning both the glare and pomp of public station, seeking neither place nor preferment, he has lived and labored, content to see others preferred to places of honor and trust, dutiful, diligent and faithful, seeking only the satisfaction and the fruits which fall to the lot of him who leads and fills a quiet and useful life.



**S**AMUEL A. SODERBERG, the efficient and popular Treasurer of Muskegon County, who now makes his home in the city of Muskegon, is a native of Switzerland. He was born in that far-off land December 11, 1858, and is a son of Johannus and Johanna (Anderson) Soderberg. They were farming people and never left the land of their nativity. Our subject was the eldest of their family. He attended school until fourteen years of age, spending two years in a High School, and then learning the shoemaker's trade, which he followed until twenty years of age. At that time he received an appointment as foreman of the extensive gas works in Stockholm, having charge of from fifty to sixty men. This position he filled for four years.

It was in the fall of 1880 that Mr. Soderberg came to America, crossing the Atlantic to New York City, going thence to Chicago, and arriving in Muskegon on the 4th of August, 1880. Here he began clerking for Mr. Waldon, a shoe merchant, with whom he remained for two years. In 1882, he became an employe in a box factory, and to that work devoted his energies for six years, after which he began business in his own interest, manufacturing boots and shoes. He carried on this enterprise until 1889, when the establishment was destroyed by fire, causing a heavy loss to the owner. Mr. Soderberg then resumed clerking until the following year, when he formed a partnership with Andrew Donnalson, under the firm name of Soderberg & Donnalson, dealers in boots

and shoes at No. 366 Lake Street. They carry a fine line of goods, and are now enjoying an extensive trade as the result of their fair and honorable dealing, their courteous treatment and their desire to please their patrons.

In 1880 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Soderberg and Miss Anna Figenfelt, of Muskegon, a native of Switzerland. Five children have been born of this union, four sons and a daughter. The family resides at No. 32 Main Avenue. The fellow-citizens of our subject have recognized his worth and ability and have frequently called upon him to serve in positions of public trust. He was elected Supervisor of the Eighth Ward and served one year, was appointed Deputy Sheriff under William Hancock, and filled that office until the death of his superior. In 1892, he was elected County Treasurer of Muskegon County, on the Republican ticket, for a term of two years, and is now acceptably and creditably filling that office. The Republican party finds in him a staunch supporter. Socially, he is connected with the Macabees. During his residence in this community, Mr. Soderberg has lived so that he has won the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact and gained a wide circle of warm friends.



**H**ERBERT THUSTELL, M. D., a leading medical practitioner and skillful surgeon of Montague, Muskegon County, Mich., is a native of Rockwood, Ontario, and was born January 8, 1863. His parents, Francis and Amelia (Higinson) Thustell, were long-time residents of Canada, widely known and highly respected. The father, an Englishman, was born near London in 1830. He came to America with his father, Benjamin Thustell, when only five years of age. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a prosperous Canadian farmer, and held official positions of trust in the Queen's

dominions. The Thustells, originally emigrating from the Netherlands to England, attained to prominence in their adopted land, and when Benjamin Thustell made his home in the Dominion of Canada the English government also received his efficient service. From his fifth year reared and educated in Canada, Francis Thustell there attained to manhood and married the mother of our subject, the daughter of an Irish father and an English mother. The only brother of Francis Thustell, the uncle of our subject, died when quite young and left two sons, one of whom, William, is now a resident of Chicago. The other, in his journeyings about, has been lost sight of.

In the parental family were five sons and two daughters. Our subject, Herbert, was the next to the youngest of the living brothers and sisters; Laura married W. D. Cook, a prominent hotel man of Memphis, Tenn.; Edward B. is the popular proprietor of the National Hotel at Frankfort, Mich.; Alfred is a resident of Maguld, Mich., and is in the installment business; Walter is a successful merchant of Traverse City, Mich.; Henry is a professor in the University of Nevada; and Helen H. died at the age of seven years.

Our subject was three years of age when his parents emigrated to Michigan and located in Grand Traverse, the days of his childhood being mainly passed upon his father's farm, where he was trained to habits of industry. He attended the public schools and also enjoyed the advantage of a year's instruction in the High School of Traverse City, afterward entering the Michigan Agricultural College, in which he spent two years. Then, returning to Traverse City, he completed his High School course and graduated with honor. In 1889 Dr. Thustell matriculated in the medical department of the State University, at Ann Arbor, and in June, 1892, received his diploma.

Immediately after the close of his medical course, our subject located permanently in Montague, where he has met with encouraging success, building up, in a comparatively short time, an extended and lucrative practice. Dr. Thustell, faithfully going his rounds alike in pleasant or inclement weather, commands the high esteem and confidence of the community by whom he is sur-

rounded, and is considered by the general public one of the most able physicians and expert surgeons of his locality. Young in years, our subject has attained to an enviable position in the professional world, and, keeping abreast of the times by study and scientific research, has a bright future before him, and is rapidly winning his upward way to assured prosperity.



**B**ENTON THURSTON, a leading general agriculturist and able Supervisor of Chester Township, Ottawa County, Mich., was born March 20, 1841, in Sullivan County, N. Y., and was the son of Daniel Thurston, who located in Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1856. The mother, in maidenhood Miss Madison, passed away in the Empire State when our subject was only a little boy. The father, a ship-carpenter, worked at his trade in Grand Rapids and also erected numerous buildings; he was also a millwright, and in 1858 or 1860 built a large flouring mill in Lisbon. Removing to Lisbon, he handled merchandise for a time, but in 1864 went to Missouri and settled in Princeton. After the war he removed to the eastern part of the latter State and died there in about 1881. He was twice married, and by the mother of our subject had five children. Frank resides in Pennsylvania; John is a resident of South Dakota; Hannah is the wife of Jacob Mann; Benton is our subject; and Alfred makes his home in Colorado.

Benton Thurston was mainly educated in the common schools of Ottawa County and was only a young lad when he began the battle of life for himself. Desirous of attending school, he worked for small wages while he was pursuing his studies, and was employed variously in clearing land and in the lumber districts. In August, 1862, answering the call of the Government, he enlisted in Company H, Fourth Michigan Cavalry, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, being first under the command of Gen. Buell and later under R. H. G. Minty, of Detroit. Actively participating in

the battle of Perryville, and following in pursuit of Morgan through Kentucky, Mr. Thurston took an active part in the engagements of Lebanon, Stone River and various skirmishes, after which he returned to Louisville, later engaging in the Atlanta campaign. The brigade to which the regiment of our subject belonged opened fire at Chickamauga. Finally camping near Louisville, after being mounted almost night and day, Mr. Thurston barely missed being present at the fight of Nashville, and with his regiment went into winter quarters at Grand Springs. In the spring of 1865 the regiment took part in the celebrated Wilson Raid through Tennessee and Georgia, and also fought the last battle at Columbia, Ga. Our subject was captured near Chattanooga, on the Tennessee River, but was immediately paroled and was mustered out of service at Nashville, Tenn., in July, 1865. Enlisting as a private, he was promoted to be a Corporal, and was mustered out as a Sergeant after two years and eleven months of active service, arriving safely at home July 14, 1865.

Having saved a considerable portion of the money received while in the army, Mr. Thurston invested it in the eighty acres of land upon which he now resides and which he purchased some time before the close of the war. The acres were all heavily timbered, and during his absence twenty acres were cleared. Upon his return home he cleared ten acres, and in 1865 and 1866 was logging in the White River country. He worked in different places and was engaged in various occupations until 1871, when he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Rosenberg, a native of Michigan, and a daughter of Benjamin and Mary A. (Suchart) Rosenberg, early settlers of Ottawa County and of German parentage. Of the nine children of Mr. and Mrs. Rosenberg two died young. David resides in Grand Rapids; Elizabeth is Mrs. Thurston; Hannah, deceased, was the wife of J. P. Burman; Henry, George, Mary and Emma complete the list. Mr. and Mrs. Rosenberg reside in Ottawa County.

Our subject and his estimable wife have been blessed with the presence of four intelligent children: Viola, Vinnie, Earl and Hazel. Viola, an

accomplished young lady, is a graduate of the Lisbon School, the High School of Grand Rapids, and the Training School of Grand Rapids. She taught successfully in 1892 in the city school, and will have the same position in 1893. Vinnie excels in music and will undoubtedly make that her profession. At the time of his marriage, Mr. Thurston had cleared and cultivated forty acres and built a small house. He has sixty acres under high cultivation now, and has also a peach and apple orchard and handles with profit a high grade of cattle, horses and sheep. Mr. and Mrs. Thurston take a high social position in the best circles of the county and enjoy the confidence and regard of many old-time friends.

Faternally, our subject is connected with Lisbon Lodge No. 229, A. F. & A. M., and is Treasurer of the same, which responsible position he has held with fidelity many years. Politically an Independent, Mr. Thurston has occupied with marked ability various important positions of trust, and in 1887 was elected Treasurer of the township; he was re-elected in 1888, and only beaten by three votes in 1889. In 1890 elected Supervisor, he has been re-elected each succeeding year and has discharged the duties involved to the great satisfaction of his fellow-townsmen. Widely known throughout Ottawa County, our subject is exceedingly popular and counts his friends by the score.



**M**AJ. C. E. STORRS, proprietor of Storrs' Vineyard and a prominent citizen of North Muskegon, was born in West Marnett Township, Essex County, N. Y., on the 3d of September, 1833. He is an honored representative of a patriotic family that has furnished many valiant soldiers to our country in time of need. His father, Elijah Storrs, a native of Middletown, Conn., served with courage and efficiency during the War of 1812, and from the rank of First Lieutenant was promoted to be Captain as a reward for meritorious conduct. In 1831 he re-

moved as far West as Summit County, Ohio, where he located on a farm in Northfield Township. Thence, in 1864, he came to Michigan and settled in Grand Haven, where he died at the age of eighty-five.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Joseph Storrs, was a native of Connecticut and served in the Colonial army during the Revolutionary War. He was of Welsh descent. The mother of our subject was Julia, daughter of Mr. Holcomb, who served with the famous Green Mountain boys during the War of the Revolution. She was born and reared in Vermont, and after a happy wedded life of fifty-nine years passed to her final rest, at the age of four-score and two years. The Holcomb family originated in England.

Elijah Storrs and his good wife were the parents of ten children, seven of whom attained to mature years, viz.: Clark N., a resident of North Muskegon; Wales F., deceased; Harriet W., the wife of C. H. Dunbar, of Brecksville, Ohio; Carlton L., of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Eliza A., the widow of Charles Reynolds, and a resident of Sturgeon Bay, Wis.; Maria L., the wife of James H. Coates, of Brecksville, Ohio; and C. E., the subject of this biographical notice. The last-named is the youngest surviving member of the family. At the time his parents removed to Summit County, Ohio, he was about six months old, and his boyhood years were passed upon his father's farm.

September 24, 1854, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Maria Van Noate, a native of Independence, Ohio, and immediately after their marriage the young couple came to Michigan and settled in Grand Rapids, where they spent the winter of 1854-55. Removing from that city to Clinton County, Ohio, they resided there until 1858, when they returned to Michigan and located in Blendon Township, Ottawa County. For two years Mr. Storrs was engaged in the mill and lumber business in Ottawa County, and in the spring of 1861 he purchased a one-half interest in a sawmill there.

Shortly after the commencement of the Civil War, Mr. Storrs enlisted in Company B, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, and in 1862 went to the front

in the capacity of Department Second Lieutenant. In March, 1863, he was promoted to be Second Lieutenant, and on the 17th of July, 1863, was commissioned Captain. He continued in that rank until he was promoted to be Major, on the 6th of June, 1865, and was serving in that position at the time of his discharge. He participated actively in many engagements and at Nubias Cross Roads, July 24, 1863, was wounded in the left shoulder by a minie-ball. He was honorably discharged at Leavenworth, Kan., October 10, 1865, and upon being mustered out of the service returned to his home in Ottawa County.

Resuming his lumbering and milling business, which he had temporarily discontinued, Maj. Storrs was thus engaged until 1876, when he disposed of his interests in Ottawa County and removed to Eaton Township, Mason County, this State. There for a number of years he made his home on a farm. In 1882 he came to North Muskegon in the capacity of book-keeper for the C. N. Storrs Lumber Company, a position which he filled acceptably. In 1886 he purchased the Princeton Fruit Farm, the name of which he changed to Storrs' Vineyard. This fine farm is devoted to the raising of fruits, a business in which the Major is particularly well informed. Twenty acres are planted in a vineyard, while fifty acres are devoted to small fruits. From the vineyard are gathered an average of forty-five tons of grapes each season, and the grapes for flavor and quality are unsurpassed, if equaled, in the State.

The Major and his wife have a family of three children: Alice J., wife of Leroy A. Franklin, of Grand Rapids; Frank, who aids in the cultivation of the fruit farm; and Maggie, wife of Elliott D. Prescott, a resident of Ravenna, Mich. Maj. Storrs cast his first ballot in Ohio in 1851, and has been a Republican ever since the inception of that party. In 1875 he represented Blendon Township on the Board of Supervisors of Ottawa County, and he also served as Township Clerk and Highway Commissioner while residing there. In Eaton Township, Mason County, he served as Supervisor during the years 1877-79-80-81, and was a member of the Board of School Examiners of Mason County. He served as Supervisor of



the township of Laketon, Muskegon County, in 1882 and 1887, and for one year filled the position of Assessor of North Muskegon. He also served as Alderman of North Muskegon for one year. Socially, he is identified with Amos E. Slide Post No. 280, G. A. R., at North Muskegon, and has frequently served as Commander of the post. In addition to local duties, he has been Inspector of the Department of Michigan of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is Food and Dairy Commissioner of the State.



**C**APT. SIMON BRENNAN, whose gallant services as a member of the Union army during the Civil War won for him the title by which he is familiarly known, and who is now a prominent citizen of Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, was born in Nova Scotia, April 22, 1840, and is the son of Simon and Elizabeth (Innes) Brennan, likewise natives of Nova Scotia. There were eight children in the parental family, five of whom are now living, two of the brothers having been killed while serving in the Civil War.

The fifth of the family in order of birth is Simon, of this sketch. At the age of ten years he accompanied his parents to Massachusetts and settled with them in Boston, where he was a student in the public schools. At the age of fifteen years he began to earn his own living, and for one year followed fishing during the summer and attended school in the winter months. During 1857 he went to sea, and remained upon the ocean for a year, in the mean time visiting many of the prominent ports of South America. Afterward he coasted along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean for one summer, and spent the following winter in school. He then returned to his home in Boston, where he worked on a farm during the summer months and prosecuted his studies in the winter.

In February of 1859, our subject came to Michigan and settled in Georgetown Township, Ottawa

County, where he engaged in the sawmill business for one year, and later spent twelve months in a shipyard. In April, 1861, when our country was calling upon all its patriotic sons to offer their lives in its service, the name of Simon Brennan was enrolled as a volunteer in Company I, Third Michigan Infantry. Although at that time only twenty-one years of age, he was elected First Sergeant of his company, in which capacity he marched to the front. He was mustered into the State service at Grand Rapids, May 10, 1861, and one month later was mustered into the United States service. On the 15th of June his regiment left Michigan and marched to the headquarters of the main army, at Washington, D. C.

With his regiment he participated in the battle of Bull Run, where they supported the battery, but were under fire. He was also present at the siege of Yorktown, and the battles of Williamsburgh and Fair Oaks, where the regiment lost heavily and where he was severely wounded in the left arm. For some time after being injured, he was incapacitated for active service, and therefore did not engage in the seven days' fighting around Richmond. Upon recovering, he took part in Gen. Pope's campaign, until, on the 28th of August, 1862, he was again wounded, this time in the right shoulder. This injury disabled him until after the battle of Fredericksburg.

Later the Captain took part in all the active engagements of the Army of the Potomac prior to the battle of the Wilderness; at that engagement he was taken prisoner by the Confederates, and for a time was kept at Macon, Ga., whence, with six hundred other prisoners, he was taken to Charleston, S. C., and retained in that city for six weeks under fire of our own guns. Subsequently he was removed to Columbia, S. C., where he remained until the spring of the following year. He was then paroled, and remained on parole until the close of the war, being mustered out June 10, 1865. He was promoted successively through the various ranks from Sergeant to Captain, and was discharged with the latter title.

Returning to Michigan a physical wreck, his constitution impaired by exposure and the hardships of marches and camp life, as well as by the

privations endured while in prison, the Captain was unable for some time to perform any manual labor. Believing that the climate of Colorado would prove beneficial, he went thither, and for two years engaged in lumbering in that State. Upon his father's death, in 1868, he returned to Michigan, and has since conducted farming operations in Ottawa County. He is a general grain agriculturist and markets his products at Grand Rapids.

On the 28th of March, 1872, the Captain was united in marriage with Miss Ruth E., daughter of William Haire, one of the pioneer settlers of Michigan. One child, Lillian, has blessed this union. A stanch Republican in politics, Capt. Brennan has filled the positions of Supervisor of Georgetown Township, Clerk, Highway Commissioner, and at one time was nominated for the position of Sheriff, but was defeated at the polls. Socially, he is identified with O. P. Morton Post, G. A. R., at Manton.



**F**RANCIS HALL, an energetic and prosperous general agriculturist and a practical horticulturist, successfully cultivating a fine variety of fruit upon his homestead, pleasantly located upon a fertile section of land in Ottawa County, Mich., is a leading citizen of his locality, and, an ardent advocate of temperance, is respected for his sterling integrity and high principles. Mr. Hall is the descendant of sturdy English ancestors, his father, William Hall, having been born in Utten Ambo, Yorkshire, England, twelve miles from the city of York. Emigrating to the United States in 1831, the father landed in New York, but tarried only a brief time in that metropolis, journeying thence to Detroit, from that time his permanent home until his death. His life-time occupation was the pursuit of agriculture, and by unceasing industry he thriftily acquired a comfortable competence. Seven children clustered about the family hearth of the parents, and were

in the order of birth: Thomas, Hannah, Ann, Mary, Willie, Francis and John, all natives of England, and with the exception of Thomas all accompanied the father and mother to America. William, Mary and Francis are now the sole survivors of the brothers and sisters.

Our subject was born in 1822, and was a little lad eight years of age when he went to Detroit, in which city he continued to reside until 1869, at which date he came to his present locality. He received an excellent education in the public schools of Detroit, and, from the age of eighteen entirely self-supporting, began in 1840 the manufacture of tubs and pails. He continued in this line of trade for fourteen years, and for ten years was employed by E. B. Ward to assist in the construction of twelve large glasshouses used for the propagation and culture of grapes. In 1869, Mr. Hall, purchasing his homestead of one hundred acres, then all heavy timberland, entered with energy upon the clearing and improvement of his farm, and has now brought under profitable cultivation fifty acres, a portion of which is devoted to fruit, principally berries of all kinds. In 1855, Francis Hall and Miss Mary E. McDonald were united in marriage and for thirty-eight years have enjoyed a pleasant companionship, with fidelity sharing each other's joys and sorrows.

Financially prospered, our subject takes a high place among his friends and neighbors and is considered authority in fruit-culture, being especially successful in handling berries, shipping to outside markets some of the finest produced in the Wolverine State. The union of our subject and his estimable wife has not been blessed by children, but Mr. and Mrs. Hall from their abundance are liberal givers and, kindly by nature, add to the happiness of others. They are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are foremost in the extension of religious influence and the good work of their locality. As a strong temperance advocate, our subject is deeply interested in lifting up his fallen brethren, and in all matters tending to the elevation of humanity may ever be found upon the side of truth and justice. Fraternally, our subject has since January, 1845, been connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fel-

lows, and has many sincere friends within that ancient order. Politically a Republican, Mr. Hall takes an active interest in local and national issues and is well versed in the vital interests and public affairs of the day, and, widely known, fully commands the esteem of the entire community among whom his useful years are passed.



**C**HARLES ALFORD. Few citizens of Ottawa County have resided here for a longer period than has the subject of this brief sketch, who has lived upon his present farm in Tallmadge Township since the fall of 1845. During the half-century of his residence here, he has witnessed many wonderful changes, and has himself been a prominent factor in facilitating the progress of his community. His services on behalf of his fellow-citizens are appreciated by the people of the township, and he occupies a high place in their regard.

Born in Lyons, Wayne County, N. Y., May 4, 1817, our subject is the son of Roswell and Elizabeth (Carl) Alford, natives of New York State, the latter being a daughter of Benjamin Carl. Charles is the eldest child in his father's family, and was only five years old when he was bereaved by his mother's death. Afterward his father married again, and he remained with his father and step-mother until he reached the age of twenty-one. In the mean time he attended the common schools of Lyons, where he laid the foundation of the broad fund of information he afterward gained by practical education in the school of experience.

At the age of twenty-one, Charles Alford commenced to work as a farm laborer in the employ of others, and continued thus engaged for one year. He then, at the age of twenty-two, established domestic ties, and afterward began farming on shares, continuing in that way until the fall of 1844. Then leaving the county of his birth, he came to Michigan and settled in Ottawa County, where he purchased a tract of land in Tallmadge

Township in the spring of 1845. He still resides upon his original purchase and engages extensively in raising grain and fruit, in both of which he has met with success.

On Christmas Day, 1839, Mr. Alford was united in marriage with Miss Melly, daughter of Joel Burch, a resident of Lyons, N. Y., and unto them there have been born eight children, only two of whom are now living. Ann married C. P. Reed and resides at Ravenna, Mich.; and Hannah, the wife of William Millard, lives in Ottawa County. The wife and mother departed this life in 1867, leaving to her family and friends the memory of a pure and holy life, devoted with unselfishness and love to the welfare of her husband and children.

Since attaining his majority, Mr. Alford has upheld with enthusiasm and fidelity the principles of the Republican party, his first Presidential vote having been cast for Gen. William Henry Harrison. Personally, his services in public offices are highly appreciated and he has served as Supervisor of Tallmadge Township for four years, and has also been Treasurer for a number of terms. It is to such citizens as he that Tallmadge Township owes the prominent position it occupies as one of the first townships in the county.



**H**ENRY D. BAKER, dealer in books and stationery in Muskegon, was born in Holland, March 24, 1832, and is a son of Martin and Sarah (Van Overnk) Baker. They were farming people, and always resided in the Fatherland. Our subject is the seventh in order of birth in a family of twelve children, four sons and eight daughters, of whom four grew to mature years. His educational privileges were indeed meagre, but his training in labor was not so limited. He learned the trade of milling, which he followed until coming to America. He sailed from Liverpool, and after thirty-six days the vessel

dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. After his arrival he spent some time in Chicago, and from there went to Grand Haven, and later to Grand Rapids, where he engaged in business for some time.

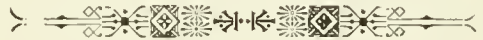
In 1861, after the breaking out of the late war, Mr. Baker entered the service of his adopted country as a member of Company K, First Michigan Regiment of Engineers and Mechanics. He was then engaged in the grocery business, and at the mustering office he was given ten days to dispose of his stock and make arrangements to go to the front. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and was under the command of Col. William P. Innis, of Grand Rapids. Mr. Baker participated in the battles of Stone River and Prairieville, and at the former was wounded in the foot by a rebel bullet. This necessitated his remaining in the hospital for several months and he was then sent to Detroit, receiving his discharge on account of disability in November, 1863.

Returning to Grand Haven, Mr. Baker made arrangements to remove to Muskegon and on the 4th of January, 1864, arrived in this city. He immediately opened a book and stationery store, which he has carried on continuously since with good success. He also has a branch store in Webster, Mich. The store is complete in all its appointments, is furnished with a large and excellent stock of goods, and the proprietor is enjoying an extensive and lucrative trade, which crowns his well-directed efforts with success.

In 1854 Mr. Baker wedded Miss Harriet G. Lewis, of Grand Rapids, daughter of William Lewis, and a native of Holland. Two children grace their union: Lizzie, now the wife of Dr. Kerry, of Muskegon; and Gertrude, at home. They have a fine residence, tastefully and beautifully furnished, and supplied with all the comforts that go to make life worth the living.

In politics, Mr. Baker has been a stalwart Republican since the organization of the party. He is a Knight-Templar Mason, and has been Treasurer of Muskegon Commandery for twenty years. He also is an honored and esteemed member of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, G. A. R. He is also interested in other business concerns, owning con-

siderable real-estate, including some of the best property in the city. He is President of the Building and Loan Association of Muskegon, one of the solid financial institutions of the place, and is also a member of the Building and Home Association. The prosperity of Muskegon and its up-building and development are due in no small degree to our subject, who has been prominent in public affairs, especially in the advancement of those interests and enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare. He well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county.



**W**ILLIAM F. NUFER, a leading citizen and President of the Nufer Cedar Company, of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Mich., is numbered among the substantial business men of the State, and, widely known, is highly esteemed. He is a native of Columbus, Ohio, and was born September 14, 1817. His parents, Charles and Julia (Hiner) Nufer, were both natives of Fredericktown, Md. The paternal grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier, and the family were among the patriots who fought nobly for God and liberty. Mr. Nufer, our subject, had one brother and sister, but, the mother dying when they were very young, they were then separated. Martha J., the sister, married Martin Halbhook, a farmer now living near Warsaw, Ind. The brother, Leonard, reared and finely educated by a wealthy widow in Ohio, after completing his studies was intrusted with the care of the property, which his benefactress intended to bequeath to him. With a promising future before him, he was called away at the early age of twenty-eight years.

Our subject, only five years old at the time of his mother's death, was bound out to a farmer, H. W. Bail, a resident of Madison County, near London, Ohio. Until nineteen years of age Mr. Nufer remained with this hard taskmaster, working from four o'clock in the morning until late at night. For ten years he continued this severe

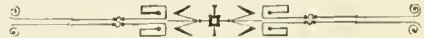
round of labor without intermission, but in 1866 left the farm where he had spent so many years of servitude. Journeying to the farther West, our subject located in Muskegon, Mich., and there secured employment in piling lumber in one of the large mills or on the docks. Continuing in this occupation a little less than a year, Mr. Nufer in 1867 came to Whitehall, and here obtained a situation scaling logs and checking lumber on the docks, and on the very spot where his extensive shingle factory now stands. He knew absolutely nothing about the business in which he then engaged, but with a determination which has characterized his entire life he soon acquired a thorough knowledge of the various details required in the discharge of his daily duties, and became an expert upon the docks of a lumbering town.

At the expiration of eleven years Mr. Nufer formed a partnership with Mr. Covell and entering into business under the firm name of Covell, Nufer & Co., began the manufacture of shingles. This partnership continued for three years, during which time our subject started another shingle factory on the site of his present mill, the firm being Nufer & Carlton. In 1884 this mill was totally destroyed by fire, but, immediately rebuilt, the partnership continued until 1887. At this latter date the Nufer Cedar Company was incorporated, with William F. Nufer as President; Fred W. Nufer, his son, Vice-president; and William Nufer, another son, Secretary and Treasurer. The Nufer Cedar Company is the most extensive cedar-shingle manufactory in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. It has a capacity of seventy millions, and its market extends all over the country.

The estimable wife of our subject was in her maidenhood Miss Ellen McGrade, a native of New York City, but, early removing to the West with her parents, attained to womanhood in Illinois, and later came to Michigan. Her parents are now deceased and but very little is known regarding their early family history. Of the six children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Nufer, four survive. One died at eighteen months, and the other passed away at the age of eight years. William L., Secretary and Treasurer of the Nufer Cedar Com-

pany, is the eldest-born; Fred W., Vice-President of the company, was the next in order of birth; Nellie M. is the only daughter. Julius is the youngest of the family. The sons and daughters were educated in the High School of Whitehall, and all occupy positions of useful influence.

Politically, Mr. Nufer is a Republican and has filled with efficiency nearly all the town offices, especially as a member of the Village Council and as President, being most faithful in duty and materially advancing the vital interests of his home locality. Fraternally, Mr. Nufer is associated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and is a Knight Templar. Prospered financially, he possesses, aside from his business interests, a large body of farming land. Beginning life under adverse circumstances, Mr. Nufer has solely through self-reliant effort won his way upward to wealth and honor, and commands the respect and thorough confidence of the general public. Known as a man of sterling integrity of character and fine business qualifications, he is ranked among the substantial citizens of Muskegon County, and is accounted a man of liberal spirit, ever ready to assist in all matters of mutual welfare.



**H**UBERT PELGRIM. This prominent citizen was born in Troy, N. Y., January 9, 1852, to the union of Hendrick and Tryntje (Van Woudenberg) Pelgrim, natives of Holland. The parents were married in their native country, and about 1847 braved Neptune's tender mercies and came to America. The father was a weaver and followed his trade at Troy, N. Y., until about 1854, when he came to Zeeland, Ottawa County, Mich. Settling on wild land, he began making improvements and soon had a fine place. On this farm he remained until about 1881, after which he lived a retired life until his death, which occurred about 1887. Nine children were born to this much-esteemed couple, seven of whom are still living. Mr. Pelgrim's father was

in the War of the Netherlands. He and wife were members of the Reformed Church, and both took a deep interest in religious matters. She died in 1863. Mr. Pelgrim was a Republican in politics.

The original of this notice was about two years of age when he came with his parents to Zeeland, Ottawa County, Mich., and in addition to a fair education received in the common schools he attended Hope College, at Holland, Mich., from 1866 to 1869. After leaving college he clerked in a store at Vriesland, and was also in a store at Grand Rapids, clerking in all about three and a-half years. After that he engaged in teaching in Missaukee County, this State, and followed this profession with gratifying success for six years. During that time he was engaged in other occupations as well, and after leaving the schoolroom he came to Olive Township, Ottawa County, and located on section 21, where he bought railroad land. This was not much improved, but he began working on it and remained there until 1883, when he moved to Cadillac, where he made his home for nine or ten months. He then returned to section 21, and tilled the soil on his farm until 1886, when he sold out and moved to the place where he now lives.

His first wife was Miss Jane Copier, a native of Holland, by whom he had five children, only two of whom are living, Henry A. and Adrain H., both at home. Mrs. Pelgrim died in 1883, and in January, 1888, Mr. Pelgrim was married to Miss Dirkje VerHoef, who was the daughter of Bert VerHoef, a native of Holland. Two children were born to the last union, John and Bert, both interesting little children. Mr. Pelgrim is the owner of forty acres, and he has it well improved and in a high state of cultivation. He grows corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, etc., but raises very little stock, devoting all his time to his farm. In his political preference he is a Republican, and he is now serving his first term as Supervisor of the township, discharging the duties incumbent upon that position in a very able manner. He served as Township Clerk for two years, and has settled the petty difficulties of the township as Justice of the Peace for the past eight years. Mr. Pelgrim is also interested in educational matters, and is

Director of his school district. He is a member of the Reformed Church in his religious views. Last year he was Secretary of the Township Republican Central Committee. He is public-spirited and enterprising, and is an enthusiastic supporter of all public enterprises.

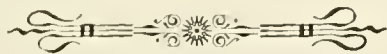


**H**ALVOR ANDERSON is one of the many substantial farmers of Fruitland Township who claim Norway as their native land. His residence is on section 24, where he has a valuable farm, comprising eighty acres. He was born in the western part of Norway in 1811, being a son of Oleson and Anna (Halveson) Anderson. The family trace their descent through many generations as inhabitants of that land, and have always been noted for their honorable and trustworthy characteristics. Oleson Anderson was the son of a copper-smith. He had the advantages of a good education and made his home under the parental roof-tree until attaining his majority, when he came into possession of his father's farm, which comprised about eighty acres of good land. Mr. Anderson was a skilled general mechanic, which trade he followed in connection with his farming duties. To himself and wife was born a family of seven children. Three of the number, Mary A., Carel and Olie, are still residents of Norway. Lewis and Andrew are both sailors, having their homes in this country. Halvor, of whom we write, is the second in order of birth, and Caroline resides in Wisconsin. The parents of these children are still living, though well along in years, and are members of the Lutheran Church, in the faith of which our subject was reared.

In his native country our subject was given a good education. When he arrived at man's estate he decided to remove to the United States, and after he had landed here he proceeded direct to Michigan, locating on his present farm. At the end of the year he enlisted in the defense of the

land which he intended should be henceforth his home. When the time of his service had expired, he returned to his farm, but seeing that without means he could do little for its improvement, he went into the sawmills, working for various parties for nearly ten years. During this time he carefully laid by as much money as he could, and in 1871 returned to his farm, since which time he has given his entire attention to its cultivation. This place, which was entirely wild land when it came into his possession, has been transformed under his careful hand, until it bears little trace of its former condition. He is justly numbered among the enterprising farmers of this township, where he is highly esteemed.

October 29, 1870, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Halverson, by whom he has had six children. Two died in childhood, and those living are Albert L., Emma, Ida and Etta. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were both from childhood attendants of the Lutheran Church. Politically, the former is affiliated with the Republican party. In 1862 he became a member of Company F, Fifth Michigan Cavalry, under Gen. Kilpatrick and Gen. Sheridan. He took part in the battle of the Wilderness and was also in the equally famous battles of Gettysburg and Winchester. Though he saw much active service and was ever to be found in the front ranks, he was never wounded or taken prisoner. When the storm clouds of war had rolled away he received an honorable discharge, on the 1st of July, 1865, in Detroit.



**T**HOMAS J. QUINN, M. D., a physician of exceptionally fine attainments and professional ability, and a skillful surgeon of extended experience, residing at No. 66 South Terrace Street, Muskegon, Mich., has for a quarter of a century been identified with the vital interests of his present home, during this length of time en-

joying an extensive and lucrative practice. Dr. Quinn also successfully conducts a drug-store, carrying a complete line of drugs and sundries common to a first-class pharmacy. He is a native of Ireland and was born in 1843. His father and mother, Thomas and Mary (Duggan) Quinn, were likewise born in the Emerald Isle, and were the descendants of a long line of intelligent and honored ancestors, who through many generations won their upward way to positions of usefulness, commanding the high respect of all with whom they associated.

Dr. Quinn from his earliest boyhood enjoyed excellent educational advantages, and having received the most thorough training and passed a high examination in his preparatory studies entered the University of Dublin. Matriculating in the medical department of this institution of learning, our subject completed with honor a course of instruction. For many years it had been the settled purpose of Dr. Quinn to try his fortunes as a physician in the world beyond the sea, and in 1864 he bade adieu to the scenes of childhood, and, emigrating to America, landed safely in Canada, and for a twelvemonth practiced in Toronto. He was as yet only a very young man, having a short time before attained his majority, but he was animated by hope and courage, and with resolution entered into the many trying experiences incidental to the career of the young physician. After some length of time he determined to become a citizen of the United States, and thus avail himself of the many advantages offered by a republican government.

In July, 1868, journeying to Michigan, Dr. Quinn located in Muskegon, where he opened an office and has since prosperously engaged in the demands of an extensive, and increasing round of practice. In 1865, he received the degree of M. D. in Toronto, Canada, and, a man of professional enterprise, keeps himself fully abreast of the times and is well posted on all the appliances and remedies of modern science. Before coming to the United States Dr. Quinn had a varied experience in surgery, for ten months occupying the responsible position of Assistant Surgeon in the English navy.

In 1875, Thomas J. Quinn, M. D., and Miss Mary

Hitchcock were united in marriage. The accomplished wife of our subject is a native of the Empire State, and, born in Kingston, is a daughter of Oliver Hitchcock, a highly respected citizen of New York. The pleasant home of Dr. and Mrs. Quinn has been blessed by the birth of three intelligent children, two sons and one daughter. Thomas E. was the eldest-born; Clarence was the second in order of birth; Mary E. is the youngest. Our subject and his excellent wife occupy positions of useful influence, and enjoy the esteem of a large acquaintance. Known in all good works of their immediate neighborhood, they also take an active part in the benevolent enterprises of the city, and in all matters of public welfare our subject lends a helping hand.



**M**RS. HANNAH C. BARNARD. In the twilight of her honored and useful existence, surrounded by all the comforts of life and blessed by the thoughtful ministrations of a host of warm personal friends, this venerable lady is living in her pleasant home at Hudsonville. As a pioneer of this State and for many years a resident within its boundaries, she has witnessed its rapid development and aided, as far as possible, in its material, moral and religious progress. An earnest Christian woman, of more than ordinary ability and attainments, her power has been felt and her character honored, not only in the churches where her lot has been cast, but by the community at large. A noble life, full of sweetness and quiet trust; a name untarnished by selfishness or wrong-doing; an example of Christian living worthy of emulation, such is the rich heritage that she can bequeath to her children and friends.

The father of our subject, Jonathan Scott, was a native of Rupert, Vt., and was born September 9, 1778. He was a Captain in the War of 1812 and a Democrat in politics. His first wife, Hannah (Wood) Scott, a native of Middletown, Vt., was

born March 3, 1784, and died November 3, 1815, after having become the mother of five children. His second wife was Mrs. Rachel (Wheeler) Cook, who was born in Chesterfield, N. H., on the 3d of November, 1782, being the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. By her first marriage she had one child, while her union with Mr. Scott resulted in the birth of three children, all of whom are deceased with the exception of Hannah Calista, our subject. The mother survived until the 16th of February, 1855, and the father passed away February 6, 1861. In religious convictions she was a Baptist, while he advocated the doctrines of the Universalists. They were pioneers of Michigan, having removed here in 1844 from Jefferson County, N. Y.

Born in Ellisburg, Jefferson County, N. Y., March 1, 1822, the subject of this sketch was reared to womanhood in her native county, where she gained a good education. She followed the profession of a teacher both in the Empire State and after locating in Michigan. In 1846 she became the wife of Darwin E. Fisher, a native of Vermont and for some years a resident of Canada, where he gained a good French and English education. He died February 24, 1853, leaving a widow but no children. In 1854 our subject became the wife of William R. Barnard, who was born in Buffalo, N. Y., August 16, 1813. He received his education at Rochester, N. Y., and thence came to Michigan in an early day. After his marriage to our subject, he conducted the Eagle Hotel in Grand Rapids, which her former husband had purchased in 1850. After superintending the management of that place for one year, he built the Barnard House and ran it as a first-class hotel until 1862.

As a member of the Baptist Church, Mrs. Barnard has for years taken an active part in religious enterprises. She is also prominently identified with the Hudsonville Social Union, and contributes of her time and means to the various benevolent projects of the community. Of her sons and daughters we note the following: Maria Bathsheba married and became the mother of five children, four of whom are now living. Asa Averill Scott, who was born in Ellisburg, N. Y., August



16, 1819, married Miss Irene Rawles, and they became the parents of six children, four of whom survive; he died in December of 1853. Annetta Calista, the wife of Myron Creager, is the mother of two children and resides in Grand Rapids. George W. married Miss Mary Britton (now deceased) and their union resulted in the birth of one child, Lora, who is married and lives in Seattle, Wash.; by his second marriage, George W. has three children. Harley, a resident of Middleville, Mich., is married and has two children; and Henry, who is married and has one child, makes his home in Seattle, Wash.



**M**ARC J. REISEGER, the successful architect and civil engineer, prosperously conducting an extensive business in Muskegon, Mich., is a native of the Netherlands, having been born on the 31st of October, 1861. His father, Wesley M. Reiseger, a native of Holland and a descendant of a long line of ancestry born in the Netherlands, passed away in his native land in 1871. The mother, Cornelia (Feldman) Reiseger, born, educated and married in Holland, together with the father bequeathed to the children habits of industrious thrift and sterling integrity of character.

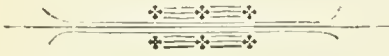
Mr. Reiseger received his primary education in the home schools of his birthplace, and afterward enjoyed the advantage of four years' training in the Polytechnic Colleges, located at Gronun. Having completed with honor a thorough course of drawing, civil engineering and architecture, he graduated from that well-known institution in 1882. He was immediately employed by the Government as Inspector of Government Works, various buildings and railroads. In 1887, Mr. Reiseger determined to try the broader opportunities for advancement offered by the United States, and bidding farewell to the familiar scenes and friends of his youth, emigrated to America, landing in the city of New York. From the Empire State he

soon found his way to Michigan, remaining a few weeks in Grand Rapids. He then went to Cheboygan and engaged with a contractor, with the object of gaining a practical knowledge of American building and to learn the language. In December, 1887, he returned to Grand Rapids, where he became acquainted with H. J. Knapp, who presented to him arguments in favor of his location in Muskegon, where our subject in 1888 settled permanently for a few months, being in the office of Mr. Knapp, but later engaging in business for himself.

In 1888, Mr. Reiseger designed the North Muskegon schoolhouse, and the style of architecture and general excellence of finish, combining a handsome exterior with interior convenience, brought him a large and constantly increasing custom. He made drawings for a bridge to be erected across Lake Muskegon from the foot of Terrace Street to the French Mill, in North Muskegon, but the admirable design involved too great an outlay of money, and our subject is now drawing another bridge, starting from Bayou Street across Lake Muskegon to Berthaud Dock, in North Muskegon, making direct connection with the gravel roads. The plan has been submitted, approved and accepted, and the bridge will soon be built by the company. The entire length of the drawbridge is to be five thousand feet, and, constructed of iron, it will cost about \$30,000. Mr. Reiseger designed the palatial residence of James Gow, and also furnished the plans for many other magnificent homes, among the latter being those of Mrs. Fleming, Rudolf Mueller and S. and B. Smith. Our subject has likewise done some fine outside work, especially in Hastings, Mich. He designed the Muskegon Water Works Building, the Good Templars' Building at Lake Harbor, and the Chase Bros.' Piano Works.

In 1889, in Greenville, Mich., were united in marriage Marc J. Reiseger and Miss L. G. Van Deins, of Greenville. Our subject and his accomplished wife, residing in a beautiful home at the corner of Terrace and Hartford Streets, Muskegon, have been blessed by the birth of a bright little son, named in honor of his paternal grandfather, Wesley M. Politically a strong Repub-

lican and an ardent advocate of the party, Mr. Reiseger is also fraternally connected with Lowell Moore Lodge No. 182, A. F. & A. M., and is likewise a member of the Independent Order of Foresters. Financially prospered, young in years, ambitious, energetic and enterprising, and withal possessed of professional ability of a high order, our subject has undoubtedly an enviable future before him.



**F**RANKLIN B. WOODMAN. Those to whom has been granted the privilege of residing in Ottawa County for the past forty or fifty years have witnessed an interrupted series of improvements. Where once rose the smoke of the camp fire now ascends the busy hum of industry from a thriving city. Where once the hunter roamed in search of game the farmer now tills the soil. Chaos has been reduced to system, and poverty has been replaced by prosperity. As one of the number whose efforts have contributed to secure these results, we present the name of F. B. Woodman, a resident farmer of Tallmadge Township.

The parents of our subject were Borden and Elizabeth (Brown) Woodman, the latter being the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Brown. He was the sixth of a family of eleven children, and was born in Madson, Madison County, N. Y., October 11, 1825. At the age of six years he was orphaned by the death of his mother and was then taken into the home of his maternal grandfather, Joseph Brown, by whom he was reared to manhood. In his youth he attended the common schools of the neighborhood, but as they were of a very inferior order his education was rather meagre.

At the age of nineteen years our subject commenced to work as a day laborer, and was thus engaged until the fall of 1849, when, desirous of bettering his financial condition, he came to Michigan. Here he settled in the woods of Tallmadge

Township, and purchasing property began to clear the land and cultivate the soil of his present farm. He is now the owner of about one hundred acres, all of which are under excellent cultivation, devoted principally to the raising of cereals. In the rotation of crops and fertilization of the soil he exercises good judgment, as a consequence of which his land is fertile and he is enabled each year to gather large harvests of golden grain.

The lady who in 1845 became the wife of our subject was Miss Emily J., daughter of William Hammond, a resident of Herkimer County, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Woodman are the parents of five children, but only two are now living. They are Hannah S., who is the wife of Samuel Roach and resides in Ottawa County; and Charles Franklin, who married Miss Ann Elizabeth Ritelmiller, and makes his home with his father, assisting in the cultivation of the farm. In his political belief Mr. Woodman is a staunch Republican, and since casting his first ballot has always upheld the principles for which the party stands. He has officiated as Constable, and has also occupied other positions, where he has rendered efficient and satisfactory service on behalf of his fellow-citizens.



**D**OEKE BOS. A glance at the lives of the representative men whose names appear in this volume will reveal many sketches of honorable and influential citizens, who have resided many years in this country, but among them none is more worthy or deserving of mention than Mr. Bos, who is a true type of the successful and progressive Michigan farmer. He was born in Holland Township, near where he now lives, in 1853, his parents being Tunnes and Creje Bos, and his grandparents Doeke and Greje Bos. The paternal grandfather, Doeke Bos, died in his native land of Holland, when his son Tunnes was about three years of age. He was the owner of a small boat, and while sailing this craft was drowned. Thus Tunnes and his brother Peter

were left at a tender age to fight life's battles for themselves, and as soon as old enough, Tunnes began learning the trade of a tailor, which he followed for some time with success; but this occupation was not at all agreeable to his tastes and he gave it up as soon as he could conveniently do so. At the age of eighteen years he entered the German army, in which he remained six years, a portion of the time as a commissioned officer, although he was never in any war. About 1848, when in his twenty-eighth year, being a young man of considerable enterprise and energy, he decided to make a home for himself and family in America, his brother Peter, who died at the age of fifty-seven years, having preceded him about one year.

Upon the arrival of Tunnes Bos in the United States, he possessed but little means, and after spending one year as a laboring man in the State of New York he came West as far as Michigan and finally found himself in Ottawa County. Inherent in him was considerable pluck, however, and he bravely endeavored to do faithfully and well all honorable work that came in his way, and although the struggle with adversity was at times bitter, it only made him the more determined to succeed, and he kept perseveringly on his way. Soon after his marriage, which occurred when he was quite young, he went to Grand Rapids, Mich., and they together obtained work with the various farmers of the vicinity and by honest industry and frugality their little capital, which amounted to only \$15, was greatly increased, and they were soon enabled to purchase ten acres in the vicinity of the city. There they lived and industriously toiled for three years, then came to Holland Township, Ottawa County, and entered eighty acres of Government land, which by perseverance they greatly improved and eventually sold for the snug sum of \$1,500. With this money Mr. Bos purchased one hundred and ten acres on section 15, where he now lives, and the improvements which he has put on the place have rendered it very valuable. He and his wife are members of the Reformed Church of North Holland, in which he has been an Elder for a number of years. To Mr. Bos and his wife a family of six

children has been born: Doeke, the subject of this sketch; Peter, deceased; Ellie, the widow of Abel Nienhuise; Gabrand, and two children who died in infancy.

Doeke Bos, the immediate subject of this sketch, grew up in the locality in which he now lives, and upon first starting out in life for himself rented land of his father for one year. He then inherited forty acres of land from his uncle's estate for the care he bestowed upon the latter until his death. To this land he has added from time to time until he is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres, all of which is carefully tilled and presents a thrifty and prosperous appearance. He made his home with his father until his marriage, which occurred when he was twenty-three years of age, to Martha Nienhuise, by whom he has a family of six children: Tunnes, Hattie, Peter and Martin (twins), Gabrand and Greje. Mr. and Mrs. Bos are worthy church members, and, politically, he is a Democrat, although his father and brother have always been Republicans.



**W**YLLYS S. WALKLEY, M. D. The noble profession of medicine affords to the student in that science a never-ending source for investigation and experiments. New remedies are constantly being discovered, steady progress is being made in surgery, and new diseases are presenting themselves under varying forms of civilization. Whatever may be said of the discoveries in other fields of knowledge, and certainly they are astonishing, it can truthfully be said of this science that not one can equal it in the great strides it is making towards a comprehensive grasp of the whole subject of man in relation to health and disease—the prevention and cure of ills that flesh is heir to. In the noble army of workers in this great field, Dr. Wyllys S. Walkley takes a prominent place. He is a native of Hillsdale County, Mich., born near the village of Hillsdale January 17, 1846, to the union

of Oliver and Parthenia (Smith) Walkley, both natives of the Nutmeg State. The father, who has followed agricultural pursuits all his life, is still living and is in his eighty-fifth year. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Joel Smith, was of Scotch descent, his father having been a native of Scotland.

The subject of this sketch passed his boyhood and youth in Hillsdale and Muskegon Counties, and remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age. In 1864 he enlisted in Company C, Twenty-third Michigan Infantry, under Col. O. L. Spaulding, and was assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps of Ohio. He took part in a number of engagements, the most prominent being Lost Mountain, Pumpkin Vine Creek, Peach Tree Creek and all the engagements around Atlanta, Jonesboro, Columbia (Tenn.), Nashville and Franklin, besides numerous skirmishes. He was acting Superintendent of the Freedman's Bureau, the Eastern District, in North Carolina for months. In 1865 he was transferred to the Twenty-eighth Infantry, commanded by Col. Wheeler, and was discharged on the 10th of June, 1866. After leaving the army he came to Michigan, and shortly afterward commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Sinz, of Newaygo, but in the mean time taught school. Later he entered the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and was graduated from that well-known institution in 1876. He subsequently began practicing in Hudsonville, Ottawa County, Mich., and there remained until 1879, when he located in Spring Lake, and in 1885 at Grand Haven, where he has carried on a general practice since.

The Doctor has met with good success in his chosen calling and gives abundant evidence of the ability which qualifies him for a high place in the medical profession. He was appointed Marine Surgeon, and has held that position since February, 1887. On the 16th of February, 1864, he was married to Miss Ida Skinner, of Casenovia Township, Muskegon County, Mich., and the daughter of L. F. Skinner. The fruits of this union were three children: Emile, wife of Peter J. Danhoff, a prominent attorney of Grand Haven; Adaline, wife of Bert Hatch, of this county; and Charlotte,

wife of A. E. Ewing, a prominent attorney, residing in Grand Rapids. In politics Dr. Walkley is a Republican, and he has shown his appreciation of secret organizations by becoming a member of Lake Lodge, I. O. O. F., at Spring Lake. He is also a member of Weatherwax Post, G. A. R. Mrs. Walkley died in the year 1873, and subsequently the Doctor took for his second wife Miss Olive McDonald, of Grand Rapids, and the daughter of Hugh McDonald. Mrs. Walkley is a native of Vermont, but in 1858 came to Grand Rapids, where she was a teacher in the schools for several years. She is an accomplished and cultured lady.

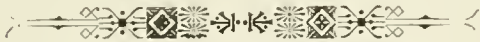


**C**YRUS J. DOVE, M. D. The noble profession of medicine affords to the student in that science a never-ending source of investigation and experiment. New remedies are constantly being discovered, steady progress is being made in surgery, and new diseases are presenting themselves under varying forms of civilization. Whatever may be said of the discoveries in other fields of knowledge, and certainly they are astonishing, it can truthfully be said of this science that not one can equal it in the great strides it is making towards a comprehensive grasp of the whole subject of man in relation to health and disease, the prevention and the cure of ills that flesh is heir to.

In the noble army of workers in this great field stands the name of Cyrus J. Dove, who is a native of Connecticut, born in Stamford, Fairfield County, December 16, 1853. His parents, Daniel and Ruth (Beers) Dove, were natives also of the Nutmeg State, and the father was a man of means. Our subject attended the common schools of Ridgefield County, and later entered the High School, where he received a good practical education. Following that he read medicine in Michigan with Dr. Monroe, of Monroe, that State, and then went to Ft. Wayne, Ind., where he read un-

der Dr. Housman. Entering the Ft. Wayne Medical College, he graduated from that institution in the year 1879, with the degree of M. D., and soon afterwards began practicing at Bardstown, Ohio, remaining there a short time. From there he went to Jamestown, Ottawa County, Mich., practiced there two years and then came to Muskegon. This was in 1881, and he has practiced here ever since. He is a physician who has applied himself conscientiously to his profession, and the distinction he enjoys is richly deserved.

Dr. Dove was married in Michigan in 1871 to Miss Mary Highfield, a native of Danbury, Conn. She died in 1871, leaving one son, William B., and Dr. Dove married his present wife, formerly Miss Rose Belile, in 1888, their nuptials being celebrated in Muskegon. Her father, David Belile, was a native of Canada. Our subject is a member of the Grand Redmen Society, and in politics is a Republican. In 1892, he took a special course of lectures in Chicago, and entered Rush Medical College the following year. He is a man interested in all enterprises for the building up and improvement of Muskegon, and gives his support to all. Wherever he has made his home, the Doctor is highly esteemed and has held a number of prominent positions. He has practiced in this city a number of years now and is recognized by the profession as a man of brightest promise.



**R**UFUS W. SKEELS, a successful agriculturist and the owner of one of the finest farms of Muskegon County, has for many years resided on section 3, Holton Township. His magnificent homestead of four hundred acres is one of the many valuable pieces of real estate which he has acquired during an exceptionally prosperous business career. In view, therefore, of his close connection with the best interests of the county, a sketch of his life will possess more than ordinary interest for his fellow-citizens.

Referring to the paternal ancestry of our sub-

ject, we find that his great-grandfather, Jonathan Skeels, was a native of New York and a Captain in the Revolutionary War, where he served with bravery under Gen. Putnam and Ethan Allen. Grandfather Rufus Skeels, also a native of New York, fought in the War of 1812, and was a farmer by occupation. A man of great ability, he served for many years as Treasurer of his county in New York, and occupied other prominent local offices. His death resulted from apoplexy, and occurred in 1815. He and his good wife reared five children: Theron, Nelson, Fannie, Eveline and Flora. The father of our subject, Theron Skeels, was born in New York, and after his father's death was apprenticed for six years to learn the trade of a blacksmith. However, he became dissatisfied with his work and on account of disagreements with his employer packed up his clothes and during the night time quietly stole away from the house. In 1826 he married Samantha, daughter of Hiram King, of Massachusetts, and seven children were born of the union, viz.: Almeda, who married Frank Eddy; Amos S., who married Mandy Bateman; Theron, who married Gusta Saulsberry; Ruth, wife of Lewis Cannon; Rufus W., of this sketch, who married Louisa Ball; Frederick and Harvey.

Having emigrated to Ohio in 1833, Mr. Skeels, Sr., entered land from the Government, and in 1836 located upon a farm in Cuyahoga County, where he remained until his demise, in 1887. In connection with agricultural pursuits, he conducted a blacksmith shop. In religious belief he was a Universalist. Politically, he was in early days a Free-Soiler, and afterward sustained the principles of the Republican party. He was often solicited to accept various local offices, and was esteemed as a man of high character and superior ability. His wife was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She died in 1884, mourned by all who knew her.

Born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, August 9, 1836, the subject of this sketch was educated in the district schools and in Twinsburgh Seminary, working for his board while attending school. When fourteen years of age he started out in the world for himself, and two years later joined an exploring party, which traveled through the Ter-

ritories of Iowa and Minnesota. He accompanied Jack Hungerford in a search for mill sites and timber-land in the interests of an Eastern land and lumber company. During the winter of 1852-53 he remained in Minnesota, and spent his time in hunting and trapping. With his companions, he was at one time attacked by a band of Indians and was obliged to flee for his life, losing all the valuable furs and skins he had collected. At the time of the attack the hunters were gathered about the camp fire, and, being taken completely by surprise, were forced to fight at fearful odds. Two of the company were seriously wounded, yet all fought with desperate courage and reached in safety the nearest settlement of whites. About thirty Indians fell in the conflict.

In 1854 Mr. Skeels located in Muskegon County, and later built a mill in Oceana County, just across the county line. He still resided in Holton Township, where he has since remained. He purchased from the Government three hundred and twenty acres of hardwood timber-land, under the "Graduation Act" paying for the property at seventy-five cents per acre. For seven years in his little log cabin he kept "bachelor's hall," devoting his time principally to hunting. To the east his nearest neighbor lived where the village of Fremont now stands, and to the southwest he had no neighbor nearer than Muskegon, twenty-two miles away. Such were his surroundings in former years. He has met with prosperity in his farming undertakings. As settlers have flocked to the county, improvements have been introduced, and the value of the land has increased proportionately. Commensurate with the progress of the county has been the prosperity of Mr. Skeels, who now owns, in addition to his homestead, four hundred acres in Oceana County and one thousand acres of hardwood timber in the Northern Peninsula of Michigan.

By his first marriage Mr. Skeels has two sons: Charles F., who married Geneveive Hannah, and Rufus T. These promising young men are graduates of the Business College at Flint, Genesee County, and Rufus has been admitted to the Bar of the State of Michigan, being the youngest lawyer in the State. In 1861 our subject entered

the service of the Government, enlisting for three months. Later he enlisted at Grand Rapids for a period of three years, becoming a member of Company B, Third Michigan Infantry, and serving with gallantry until the close of the war. He actively participated in forty-three battles and numerous skirmishes while connected with the Army of the Potomac. For thirty days he was constantly under fire, and was present during the entire period of the battle of the Wilderness. He was seven times wounded, and each time was sent to the hospital at Washington. Entering the service as a private, he was mustered out as First Lieutenant, although at the time a Captain's commission had been granted him, and he received the pay of a Captain, being in command of a company during much of the time. After having served with fidelity for three years and two months, he was honorably discharged, in June, 1864.

An expert shot, Mr. Skeels is a noted sportsman, and owns probably one of the finest hunting equipments of any hunter in Michigan. He sent to England a few years ago and had made to order a double-barreled shot-gun, carrying thirty-five buck-shot from thirteen to fifteen rods, all within a three-foot circle. This magnificent gun has brought down some of the finest specimens of game ever bagged by any hunter, and is among the most valued possessions of the owner. Fraternally, Mr. Skeels is associated with Dahlgren Post No. 119, G. A. R., at Holton, and greatly enjoys the reunions with old comrades, among whom he has a host of friends.



CHANCY L. WHITNEY, Secretary of the Muskegon Pioneer and Historical Society, President of the Muskegon Horticultural Society, and a prominent florist and seedsman of Muskegon, was born at Allen's Hill, Ontario County, N. Y., July 25, 1836. He is a son of Chancy W. Whitney, a native of the Empire State, born at Allen's Hill

in 1812, and was a hotel-keeper and farmer by occupation. The Whitneys for several generations were residents of Connecticut, going there from Southold, L. I., but the family originated in Herefordshire, England, near the line of Wales, early in the twelfth century. The first of the name came to America in 1649.

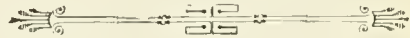
The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Phebe Ann Leach, and was born in Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y., in 1813. She was a daughter of Payne K. Leach, and was a descendant of Welsh ancestors, who in early days resided near New London, Conn. She was married in Ontario County, N. Y., and in 1849 removed with her husband to Michigan, locating near Utica, Macomb County, and residing there until her death, which occurred on Christmas Day, 1887. The husband and father passed from earth in 1867. In his political affiliations he was a Republican, and had been one of the organizers of the party. He served as the first Assessor of Internal Revenue for his district, under the administration of President Lincoln. In his religious connections he was a consistent member of the Episcopal Church.

In the parental family there were five sons and four daughters, of whom seven are still living, and Chaney L. is the eldest of the number. After acquiring a good education he commenced to teach, at the age of sixteen, and continued thus engaged for a period of twenty-five years. For four years he filled the position of Superintendent of the Public Schools of Dowagiac, serving with credit to himself and to the general satisfaction of the people. Leaving a professorship in the State Normal School, he came to Muskegon in 1868, and for two years filled the position of Superintendent of Schools of this city.

Abandoning the profession of a teacher, Mr. Whitney turned his attention to horticulture, and has since engaged extensively as a florist, in which he is a recognized authority, both throughout the States and in Canada. For five years he filled the position of editor of the *Michigan Teacher*, being one of the founders of that journal, and his literary labors have been highly successful. In 1887 he assisted in organizing, and was chosen Secretary of, the Muskegon Pioneer and Historical So-

ciety, and is still serving in that capacity, as well as in the position of President of the Muskegon Horticultural Society.

On the 25th of July, 1836, Mr. Whitney was united in marriage with Miss Addeline S. Goucher, of Marshall, Mich., and they are the parents of three children, namely: Chaney G., Assistant Auditor of the Saginaw, Tuseola & Huron Railway, residing in Saginaw, Mich.; Frank C., a clerk in the postoffice at Muskegon; and Clarence W., who is attending the Muskegon High School, and resides with his parents. In his political opinions, Mr. Whitney is a staunch Democrat, and has served two terms as Chairman of the Democratic County Committee. He has also filled a number of other positions of honor and responsibility, being at present a Trustee of the Northern Asylum for the Insane, at Traverse City, in all of which he has displayed excellent judgment and sound common-sense. Among his fellow-citizens he is highly esteemed as a man of noble principles, unflinching integrity and generosity of heart, and these qualities have won for him the confidence of the people with whom he associates.



**T**OM OLSON, who is a practical and progressive agriculturist, and one of the popular citizens of Holton Township, Muskegon County, resides on section 36. A native of Norway, he was born in 1841, and is a son of Christian and Bertha M. Olson. His father was born in 1811, and during the greater part of his life followed the occupation of farming. He rented land, which he operated, and when he had accumulated enough money he brought his family, consisting of wife and five children, to the United States, the year 1854 witnessing their emigration. They crossed the Atlantic in a sailing-vessel, and after thirteen weeks spent upon the briny deep, reached the shores of the New World. During the voyage they encountered some very stormy weather.

Christian Olson first located in Milwaukee, where he engaged in the fishing trade or followed any other pursuit that would bring him an honest livelihood. In the fall of 1855, he came to what is now Muskegon County, Mich., locating in Fruitland Township, where he purchased Government land and engaged in lumbering for about six years. He then let the land go back to the State for taxes, as it was worth little after the timber had been cleared away. For a time Mr. Olson was quite successful in his business ventures, but he lost a cargo of goods on a vessel, and this reduced his possessions greatly. In September, 1859, he purchased eighty acres of Government land where our subject now resides, and the following year located thereon with his family and began the development of the home. Its boundaries he extended until one hundred and sixty acres yielded to him a good income. He was called to his final rest in 1883. In religious belief he was a Lutheran, and his political views were those of the Republican party.

Tom Olson, whose name heads this record, was only ten years of age when he left the land of his nativity and came to the New World. He remained in school at Milwaukee for two years after his parents came to Michigan, and paid his own expenses while acquiring his education. He then rejoined his parents, with whom he remained until he had attained his majority, when he started out for himself. He purchased forty acres of State land for \$50, and began the development of the farm, upon which he now resides. To this he has added one hundred and twenty acres of land, secured from the Government, and the entire amount has been improved and cultivated until it is now one of the rich and fertile farms of the neighborhood.

In 1865, Mr. Olson married Miss Sarah Ryerson, and by their union were born two children, Ole, and Ida, now the wife of Lewis Pecha. The mother of this family died, and Mr. Olson was again married, his second union being with Sarah Nelson, daughter of John and Sarah (Sherman) Nelson. Her parents were natives of New York and had a family of eight children, of whom she is the youngest. She was born in Clay Banks

Township, Oceana County, Mich., in 1857, and by her marriage has become the mother of nine children, of whom eight are still living, namely: Christian, Adma, Louella, Trouls, Holly, Caroline M., Nelson and Ivan S.

Mr. and Mrs. Olson are both members of the Lutheran Church. In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party, and has been honored with the offices of Highway Commissioner and School Treasurer, filling the former three years, and the latter nine years. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who manifests a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community and its advancement.



**J**OHAN D. VANDER WERP. Biography should be written for the sake of its lessons—that men everywhere may place themselves in contact with facts and affairs, and build themselves up to and into a life of excellence, not in any sphere, but in their own rightful place, where they may keep and augment their individuality. To record such a life is our purpose in the following history of John D. Vander Werp, dealer in furniture, carpets and crockery at Muskegon. As in everything else, so in furniture it always pays to get the best, and an establishment which has gained an excellent reputation for just methods is the one conducted by our subject. Only reliable goods are handled, and the trade of the house extends far and wide. He keeps a well-selected and extensive assortment of the finest grades of goods of the latest styles, and he has a wide-spread and enviable patronage.

Mr. Vander Werp was born in Holland July 9, 1848, to the marriage of the Rev. D. J. Vander Werp, pastor of the Reformed Church, and Alberta (Boerema) Vander Werp, both natives of the Old Country, where the mother passed her entire life. Three children were born to this esteemed couple, and of these our subject is the eldest. He spent his youth and schooldays in



his native country, and remained under the parental roof until 1864, when he moved with his parents to the New World, his father having accepted a call to become pastor of a congregation in Graafschap, near Holland, Mich. They reached New York City a few days later, but went direct from there to their destination, near Holland, Mich., where many Hollanders settled in 1847. Here John D. attended the common schools and acquired a fair knowledge of the English language.

After leaving school our subject began to work on farms for different parties, and followed this for some time. While near Holland, Mich., he met and married Miss Jacoba Van Zanten, their union being solemnized in the year 1869. After his marriage Mr. Vander Werp taught district school for one season, and then moved onto eighty acres of land, all except two acres covered with trees, which he had cleared and sowed to wheat the previous fall. This land he worked for four years. In 1873 he lost his wife, sold his farm and removed to Muskegon, Mich., and began driving an express wagon for his cousin, Fred Vander Werp, continuing this for one year. Following this he bought an interest in a hardware store on Pine Street, and continued in this business for two and a-half years. In 1877 he formed a partnership with Joseph E. Montgomery, under the firm title of Montgomery & Vander Werp, in the furniture and undertaking business in the Muskegon National Block, later the Hackley National Bank Block.

In 1882 Montgomery & Vander Werp bought the furniture stock of Jacob Hetz, taking into partnership William S. Hofstra, and continued business in that store for three years, in the mean time buying the interest of Mr. Hofstra. In 1885 was built his present business house, Nos. 28 and 30 Western Avenue, and in 1887 he bought the interest of J. E. Montgomery, which left him the sole owner. He has a fine line of furniture, carpets, crockery, lamps and glassware, using the entire building for his business, except a twenty-two feet store on the first floor. The size of his store is 55x100 feet, and it is two stories in height with a basement. Genial and courteous, and of exceedingly pleasing address, straightforward in his dealings and of ex-

emplary habits, he has the confidence and respect of all who know him, and has built up a thriving business. He is now Treasurer of the Muskegon Building and Loan Association, and is also Treasurer of the Muskegon branch of the Security Saving and Loan Association of Minneapolis, Minn. A member of the First Holland Christian Reformed Church, on Terrace Street, he has been Deacon of the same for some time. For six years he was Coroner of Muskegon County, Supervisor of the city of Muskegon six terms, and one year was Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors. In politics he supports Republican principles. In 1875 he married his second wife, Miss Anna Warnick, of Muskegon, Mich., and daughter of Egbert Warnick. Two children have been born to this union, Birdie and Edna. Mr. and Mrs. Vander Werp have a neat residence in a good neighborhood, No. 276 South Terrace Street.



**H**ENRY E. PLANT, the owner of a fertile tract of land in Crockery Township, Ottawa County, was born in Oswego County, N. Y., October 11, 1841, and is a son of Henry B. and Charlotte M. (Trotier) Plant. His father was born in Salmon River, N. Y., in 1820, and emigrated from that State to Michigan in 1854, via Chicago, settling upon a farm in Crockery Township, Ottawa County. Upon the eighty-acre track of wild land he there purchased, he conducted agricultural operations for a number of years, and succeeded in clearing the larger part of the property. Later he added to his landed possessions by the purchase of forty acres, where his widow now resides. A farmer from boyhood, he continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred May 23, 1891, at the age of seventy-one years.

The maternal grandparents of our subject, Lewis and Charlotte (Rolland) Trotier, were natives of France, the father of Charlotte having been a nobleman in that country. The mother of

our subject was born in Canada, September 27, 1819, and still makes her home in Crockery Township, being now (1893) seventy-four years of age. Notwithstanding her advanced years, she is strong and hearty, and personally superintends the management of her farm. She is a member of the Baptist Church, to which her husband also belonged. Their pioneer home in years gone by was brightened by the presence of five sons and one daughter, of whom we note the following: Henry E., the subject of this sketch, is the eldest; Lewis D. resides in Crockery Township; Charles enlisted in Company I, Second Michigan Cavalry, and just before the expiration of his term of enlistment returned to his home, where he soon afterward died, July 10, 1864; Albert resides in Grand Rapids, this State; Walter makes his home in Muskegon, Mich.; and Elizabeth, who resided in Michigan for thirty-four years, passed away on the 17th of April, 1893.

In Oswego County, N. Y., the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood, receiving a somewhat limited education in the common schools. In 1854, he accompanied his parents to Michigan, where he has since resided. At the opening of the Civil War, he enlisted, on the 5th of December, 1861, as a member of Company F, Fourteenth Michigan Infantry, and served with bravery until the close of the conflict receiving his discharge on the 28th of July, 1865. He participated with his regiment in a number of important engagements, including the battle of Hamberg's Landing, the siege of Corinth, Pittsburg Landing and Iuka, proceeding from the last-named city to Nashville, where for two months the regiment was cut off from all communication with friends.

In the city of Nashville, from the fall of 1862 until the spring of 1863 the subject of this sketch was employed on garrison duty. From Nashville he went to Franklin, Tenn., where he also did garrison duty. Thence he went to Columbia, Tenn., and remained in that place until January of 1864, when, his term of service having expired, he re-enlisted, securing a thirty-days furlough and availing himself of this opportunity to make a visit to his home. On reporting for duty at Nashville, he was assigned to the First

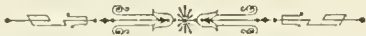
Brigade, Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, and with his company took part in the Atlanta campaign. After the fall of Atlanta they went to Savannah, consuming twenty-six days en route, and taking their Christmas dinner in the city last-named. Leaving that place in January, they crossed Sister's Ferry, marching to Columbia, S. C., and from there to Bentonville, and thence to Raleigh. In the skirmish at that place, our subject served as color-bearer and fortunately escaped uninjured, although one man out of five, upon an average, was killed or wounded.

From Raleigh the regiment marched to Richmond, Va., where a few days were spent. Then they proceeded to Washington, D. C., where they took part in the Grand Review. Later our subject was sent to Louisville, Ky., where he remained until the 18th of July, 1865. He was then mustered out of service, and upon going to Detroit received his final discharge and his pay for the period of service. Though he took an active part in many desperate encounters with the rebels, he was wounded only upon one occasion, after the siege of Corinth, in 1862, when he remained in the hospital for a time.

Shortly after returning to his home, Mr. Plant was united in marriage, October 25, 1865, with Miss Jennie S. Clark, who was born in Seneca County, N. Y., the daughter of Robert and Catherine (Van Riper) Clark. The union has resulted in the birth of seven children, of whom the following survive: Emma Myrtle, who resides in Chicago; Carrie M., Lewis C., Pearl M., Bessie C. and Ernest L. Jessie, a twin of Bessie C., died in infancy. E. Myrtle is book-keeper for R. J. Boersma, of the Roseland Enterprise Company, Chicago. Carrie M. is a head milliner in Saginaw, Mich. Lewis E. was a teacher but is now a student at Ann Arbor, Mich. Pearl M. is a teacher in the public schools of Chicago. The two younger are in school. While in Georgia Mr. Plant cast his first Presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and since that time he has steadfastly adhered to the principles enunciated by the Republican party. He has served as Highway Commissioner of Crockery Township, and has officiated in other local capacities. Socially, he is identified with Bartholomew Post No. 136, G. A.

R., at Nunica, having served as Post Commander for two years and Adjutant for six years. Mrs. Plant is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps No. 158, of which she is at present Guard.

The farm owned and occupied by Mr. Plant is located on section 21, Crockery Township, nine miles southeast of Grand Haven and two miles southwest of the village of Nunica. It contains forty acres of well-improved land, containing all the conveniences of a model country home. At the time he purchased it, in January, 1861, it was in its primeval condition, but he has cleared the land, erected the buildings, and transformed it into one of the finest farms of the township. This he has done through diligent effort and untiring energy.



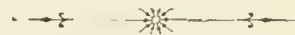
**J**AMES O'HARA, of Muskegon, was born in the city of Le Roy, Genesee County, N. Y., on the 26th of July, 1860. His father, John O'Hara, is a native of County Sligo, Ireland, and came to this country during the Irish famine, in 1846. His mother, Catherine O'Hara, *nee* McKenna, is a native of County Tyrone, Ireland. The subject of this sketch was the third of nine children, eight of whom are now living. In 1862 the family removed to Wisconsin, where the father taught school for several years, at Sheboygan, Holland, Waubeek, Boltonville, Newburgh and Manitowoc. In 1872 he became a civil engineer and surveyor, and has ever since held the office of County Surveyor of Manitowoc County, having also officiated as Surveyor of Manitowoc City for a number of terms.

In 1872 Mr. O'Hara became a sailor on the Great Lakes, and followed that calling during the summer seasons for fourteen years. Attending school in the winter time, he was graduated in the spring of 1877, and taught district schools in Wisconsin for several winters. In 1880 he entered the law office of Estabrook & Walker, at Manitowoc, Wis., where he conducted his legal studies for three winters.

These gentlemen were leading lawyers of Wisconsin, the former being afterwards Attorney-General of that State for two terms, and the latter United States District Attorney under Cleveland.

In 1883, Mr. O'Hara entered the office of Hon. N. A. Hamilton, at St. Joseph, Mich., where he remained during that and the succeeding winter. He was admitted to the Bar at Berrien Springs in 1885, and spent the winter of that year at Chicago, Ill., in the office of C. E. Kremer, the leading admiralty lawyer in the West. Coming to Muskegon on July 3, 1886, he entered the office of DeLong & Fellows, and subsequently, on the dissolution of that firm, remained with Mr. DeLong until the following year. In the fall of 1887, he formed a partnership with Mr. DeLong, under the firm name of DeLong & O'Hara, and this connection continued until August 3, 1893, since which time he has been practicing alone. At Muskegon, May 22, 1889, he married Miss Florence Palmer, and their union has been blessed by the birth of one child, Chester Palmer, who was born February 21, 1890.

Mr. O'Hara has had a large and extensive practice in the Circuit, Supreme and Federal Courts and is well known throughout the Western District of Michigan. The Bar of Muskegon County, in ability, has for years been noted as second to none in the State, and James O'Hara stands well to the front with the foremost men of the fraternity. In politics, he is a Democrat, and takes a leading place in the councils of his party. Socially, he is identified with the Odd Fellows and Macabees, and is highly regarded in these organizations.



**W**ILLIAM WACHTER, the owner of a valuable and finely-improved farm, located three miles southeast of Spring Lake, and a progressive citizen of Crockery Township, Ottawa County, is one of Germany's sons. His birth occurred in Hanover, September 19, 1851,

and there he resided until about thirteen years of age, meanwhile receiving an excellent practical education in the German language. In 1864, he accompanied his parents, John and Dora (Ronne) Wachter, from the Fatherland to the United States, and with them settled in the village of Spring Lake, Mich., where he resided about four years.

For a number of years Mr. Wachter was employed on the railroad, and as he received good wages he was enabled to support his parents in comfort until their death. His father, who had been a blacksmith in the Old Country, lived retired from active labors until his death in Spring Lake, about 1868. Afterward his widow married again, becoming the wife of Thomas Bell. She continued to reside in Spring Lake until her death in 1892. She was the mother of three children, William being the youngest. The others are: Eliza the wife of Henry Sims; and William, who died at the age of twelve years.

Reared in Germany until thirteen years of age, our subject can speak and write German fluently; he is also familiar with the Dutch and English languages, speaking and writing in both with ease. After coming to the United States, he learned the trade of a blacksmith in the railroad shops at Spring Lake, but never actively engaged in the occupation. The first purchase of land by Mr. Wachter consisted of an eighty-acre tract six miles north of Nunica, which he sold about 1880. In December, 1882, he discontinued farming and located on the farm where he now resides. He is the owner of eighty acres, of which sixty were cleared at the time of the purchase, and the remaining acres have been cleared by the present owner.

September 24, 1874, Mr. Wachter was united in marriage with Miss Clara Feitler, the daughter of John and Margaret (Elrhardt) Feitler, and a native of Germany. She accompanied her parents from Bavaria to America and settled with them at Port Washington, Wis., removing thence to Spring Lake. Afterward her parents purchased forty acres of land, and upon that place they still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Wachter are the parents of four living children, and have been called upon

to mourn the loss of five by death. Those deceased were: Lewis, Johnnie, Eliza, Clara and Willie. The surviving children are: Maggie, Anna, Augusta and George. The first Presidential ballot of Mr. Wachter was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant, and he has since then maintained his allegiance to the principles for which that famous soldier fought. He is a man of prominence in his community, and has served as School Director for two terms, besides filling a number of minor offices.



**J**OHN J. HOWDEN. Integrity, intelligence and system are characteristics which will advance the interests of any man, and will tend to the prosperity to which all aspire. Such are some of the traits of the gentleman, John J. Howden, who is the popular and able Treasurer and Secretary of the Muskegon Gas Light Company, Muskegon, Mich. The present work was established in 1871 as a stock company, with L. G. Moses as President and James Clements Secretary. The business had been carried on for some time when our subject became deeply interested as a stockholder, and he is now one of the leading business men of the city of Muskegon. In this brief summary of points in Mr. Howden's career, it should be said as an excuse for an omission, that a biography of more pretension could best convey the lessons of his life of industry and intelligent skill. Like the company he represents, the career of Mr. Howden is of value as showing that honesty, capacity and energy receive their reward at last and in good measure.

Mr. Howden was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1846, and is a son of James and Ellen (Stephenson) Howden. The father followed agricultural pursuits all his life, and, being industrious and enterprising, became one of the substantial citizens of his neighborhood. He was a man possessed of more than the average amount of intelligence and wisdom, and his career was one marked by

uprightness and honesty. John J. Howden was the carver of his own destiny and made it an honorable one. From the time he reached that period of life when his physical strength was sufficient to enable him to guide the plow, he began to contribute to the earning of his own bread. He received his scholastic training in the schools of Whitby, and remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age.

In 1871, he came to the United States and for a time stopped at Port Huron, Mich. The same year he came to Muskegon and was employed by the Muskegon Gas Light Company, and for the past sixteen years has been its Secretary and Superintendent. He is now one of the principal stockholders of the company, and is highly esteemed in leading financial and social circles. He is also largely interested in plumbing, gas and steam fitting, doing a large business in the latter.

Mr. Howden chose his life companion in the person of Miss Maria Walker, of Whitby, Canada, daughter of Robert Walker, and their nuptials were solemnized in the year 1871. In politics, our subject is independent in local matters, voting for the best man, and in his social relations he is a Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity. He has a neat and pleasant residence at No. 214 Webster Avenue, and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. His parents were natives of Ireland and emigrated to Canada in 1831. The Howden family is noted for longevity, some members of the same attaining the age of one hundred years.



**T**RACY WOODARD, an influential and successful agriculturist of Muskegon County, and the owner of a valuable farm in Moorland Township, was born in the State of New York September 12, 1836. He is the son of Joshua and Sophia (Farnam) Woodard, natives of New York. The former, who was a farmer by occupation, removed in an early day to Oakland

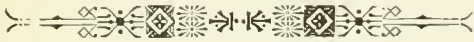
County, Mich., where he remained twelve years engaged in tilling the soil. At the expiration of that time he disposed of his farming interests in Oakland County, and removed to Kent County, this State, where he resided until his death, in 1853. He was a man of substantial and noble qualities, industrious, energetic and enterprising, and his children owe much to his counsel and assistance, as well as to the training received from their mother.

The subject of this sketch was one of nine children, eight of whom are now living. His childhood years were passed in a comparatively uneventful manner upon his father's farm, and he gained such educational advantages as were afforded by the country schools. At the age of seventeen he commenced in business for himself, and for a time worked on a farm during the summer seasons and in the timber during the winter. In 1864 he settled upon the farm he now occupies, where he has eighty acres of fertile land, upon which have been placed the improvements of a first-class estate.

The marriage of Mr. Woodard occurred in 1860 and united him with Miss Celestia, daughter of Peter and Theda (Norton) Pickett, natives of Connecticut and New York, respectively. Of this union five children were born, four of whom are now living, Ernest, Harry, Alwin and Grace. Carrie is deceased. In politics Mr. Woodard is a member of the People's party and is deeply concerned in all matters of public interest. He has been elected by his fellow-citizens to various positions of trust, having represented Barton Township upon the Newaygo County Board of Supervisors for one term, also served as Commissioner of Moorland Township for three years and Treasurer for three years, being the present incumbent of the office last named. A prominent member of the Grange, he served as Master for one term and Chaplain for a number of years, and upon several occasions has acted as delegate to the State Grange. He also was Master of Pomona Grange for two years.

Although having the appearance of health, Mr. Woodard has been a physical sufferer for many years and is unable to perform any manual labor.

However, he superintends the management of his farm and attends carefully to every detail of the work. He is one of the influential and highly esteemed citizens of Muskegon County, and his life, though unmarked by any stirring events or thrilling episodes, has been full of usefulness and crowned with honor. Those who have enjoyed the privilege of intimate association with him have found his wide experience and ripe wisdom of invaluable assistance, and his circle of friends is limited only by the number of his acquaintances.

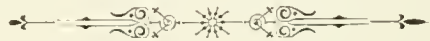


**C**LARENCE W. SESSIONS, senior member of the firm of Sessions & Bassett, attorneys and counselors-at-law in Muskegon, was born in Ionia County, Mich., February 8, 1859. He is a son of William Sessions, a native of New York State, who in 1837 removed to Michigan, locating in the township of North Plains, Ionia County. There for many years he engaged as a tiller of the soil, meeting with considerable success in his chosen vocation. In 1870 he retired from farming pursuits, and, removing to the city of Ionia, has since made his home at that place. His father, Nathaniel, was a native of Connecticut, and the family was for many generations prominent in the history of New England.

The mother of our subject was Julia, daughter of John and Eliza Jennings. Her two sons were named Clarence W. and John F., the latter being a farmer. The former, who forms the subject of this sketch, was reared on his father's farm in Ionia County, where amid rural surroundings he grew to a robust and sturdy manhood. For a time he conducted his studies in the district schools, and later attended the High School at Ionia, from which he was graduated in 1877. Afterward he became a student in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and was graduated from the literary department of that institution in the Class of '81.

Having resolved upon choosing for his life occupation the legal profession, Mr. Sessions commenced to study law under the able tuition and preceptorship of Mitchell & Bell, attorneys at Ionia, in whose office he conducted his studies until he was admitted to practice at the Bar in 1883. Opening an office at Ionia, he soon gained an extensive and lucrative practice, remaining in that place for two years. In 1885 he came to Muskegon and opened an office in the Masonic Block, later removing to the Merchants' National Bank Block, where he now occupies a pleasant suite of rooms. His present partnership with Frank H. Bassett was formed in 1890, and the members of the firm have an established reputation for ability and erudition.

The marriage of Mr. Sessions, which took place in 1882, united him with Miss Mary S., daughter of Rev. Charles H. Foote, a Presbyterian minister of Ionia, Mich. Two children have blessed this union. The family residence is located at No. 250 Webster Avenue, and is comfortably and tastily furnished. The political belief of Mr. Sessions has led him into affiliation with the Republican party, of which he is one of the most influential members in this section of the State. He has served as a member of the State Republican Committee and the County Committee, in both of which organizations he has rendered efficient service on behalf of his party. For three years or more he has been a Director in the Merchants' National Bank of Muskegon.



**H**ERMAN LANGKOWEL, the enterprising and well-known dealer in wood and coal of Muskegon, Mich., born in Western Prussia, Germany, March 2, 1854, has from his early youth been associated with the rapid growth and upward progress of his present locality, and, greatly prospered, has amassed a comfortable competence, and, aside from conducting his coal and wood yard at the foot of Terrace Street, also owns

and successfully manages a sales and livery stable on Lake Street. The paternal grandfather, Charles Langkowel, Jr., emigrated to America and landed safely in New York in 1869. The father, a baker by trade, after his arrival in the United States devoted himself to the pursuit of agriculture. Locating in Muskegon County, Mich., he made his home there for many years and passed peacefully away within the boundaries of the county in 1882. The mother, Alesia Steineke, died in her native land, Germany. She was a descendant of a line of German ancestors who by their sterling traits of character won their upward way to useful influence.

Herman Langkowel, our subject, remained in Prussia during his boyhood and attended the common schools of his birthplace, some seven years after the death of his mother crossing the broad Atlantic to a new home beyond the sea. At sixteen years of age, accompanying his father to America, he landed in New York City and directly proceeded thence to Michigan, locating in Grand Haven, where for twelve years he ran an hotel and the succeeding winter studied in the district school. In 1861 he removed to Muskegon, and here he was employed in the sawmill of John Torrent and Esaw Torrent for a time. In 1877, in partnership with Mr. Petrie, he embarked in the coal business, but later Mr. Petrie sold out and Mr. Langkowel, then assuming full charge of the business, has profitably continued in the same up to the present time. Buying to excellent advantage by the vessel and car-load, he controls one of the largest trades in wood and coal on the Lake.

Mr. Langkowel has been engaged for the past fifteen years in buying and shipping draft and coach horses, purchasing largely in Illinois. Financially prospered, he owns two hundred acres of valuable farming land, some of the best in Muskegon County. His sales and livery stable has proven an excellent investment and is patronized by a large and rapidly increasing custom. Although his time is mainly occupied with business cares, Mr. Langkowel takes an active interest in public issues, both local and National, and, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party.

Fraternally a valued member of the Independ-

ent Order of Odd Fellows, our subject is likewise identified with the Maccabees and is also connected with the German Workingmen's Association, enjoying the friendship of a wide acquaintance among these orders. Upon December 15, 1877, were united in marriage Herman Langkowel and Miss Bertha Steubenrauch, a native of Louisville, Ky., but later a resident, for some time previous to her marriage, of Muskegon. Our subject and his estimable wife have been blessed by the birth of two children, a son and daughter, Otto and Emma. The comfortable and attractive family residence is pleasantly located at No. 314 Lake Street, Muskegon.



**H**ON. J. W. MOON, M. C., capitalist and lumberman of Muskegon, was born in the township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Mich., January 18, 1836, to which place his parents had removed two years previous from Ontario County, N. Y. His father, Steward C. Moon, was born in 1798, in New York State, and is of English descent on his father's side, and Irish on his mother's. He died in October, 1891, aged ninety-two years. His wife was Mary A. Snyder, of Jersey-Dutch ancestors, and a native of New Jersey. She was born in 1804, and lived to be seventy-six years of age, passing away at their home in Jackson County, Mich., in 1880.

Until eighteen years of age, our subject took part in the routine work on his father's farm, attending the district school during the winter seasons. In 1852, the family removed from Wayne to Jackson County, and in December, 1854, leaving the shelter of the paternal roof, he commenced the battle of life in earnest. He went to the lumber camps on the Flat River, near the town of Greenville, Montcalm County, where, in the following spring, he secured work in a sawmill, and within nine months was found occupying the position known in those days as "head sawyer," from

his taking charge of the lumber-yards, attending to the selling of lumber, and sealing logs as they were drawn into the mill.

In the spring of 1856 he removed to Muskegon, and found employment as head sawyer in the mill of Beidler Brothers, then one of the leading lumbering firms on Muskegon Lake, with whom he remained in this capacity until the fall of 1860. The year 1861 he spent on his farm in Ionia County, purchased with the savings from his wages, and in the spring of 1862, returning to Muskegon, he engaged as head sawyer with Roberts, Calkins & Hull, with whom he continued two seasons, sealing logs in the woods during the winter months. In the years 1864 to 1867, he held the position of foreman of the mill during the running season, and had charge of a lumber camp during the winters. The season of 1867 he ran a mill by the thousand, and in March, 1868, in company with Alexander V. Mann, organized the firm of A. V. Mann & Co., which continues, and up to 1890 they were among the most extensive lumber operators on Muskegon Lake. The firm purchased the mill built the year previously by Shupe, Haines & Weymouth, situated on Muskegon Lake, in the then village of Lakeside, since become a part of the city of Muskegon. The mill then had a capacity of about twelve million feet of lumber per year, which has since been materially increased. The output for the season of 1888 was about twenty million feet, the firm employing in this work upwards of seventy-five men. They are largely interested in timber-lands in Arkansas, in which they own about a billion and a quarter of standing pine, and also own a one-third interest in a billion or more of standing pine in British Columbia.

Mr. Moon is President and a principal stockholder of the Alaska Refrigerator Company, of Muskegon, Mich. He is also President of the Muskegon Savings Bank, of which he was one of the organizers in 1887, and which has a capital of \$50,000, having conducted a successful business from its inception. He is a stockholder in the Lumberman's National Bank, of Muskegon, and is President of the Michigan Fire Ladder & Truck Company, of Grand Rapids, organized in the spring of

1888. He has large real-estate interests in the city of Red Cloud, Webster County, Neb., near which he owns and operates an extensive stock farm, and in addition to these interests, he is a stockholder in the Farmers' & Merchants' National Bank of Red Cloud.

In politics, Mr. Moon is a close adherent and an active supporter of the principles of the Republican party. The township and village of Lakeside, which were built up mainly by the employes of A. V. Mann & Co., have elected him to various offices, among them being Township Treasurer, Supervisor and President of the village, etc. He was elected to the State Senate of 1885-86 from the Twenty-first Senatorial District, composed of Ottawa and Muskegon Counties, and re-elected at the close of his first term. During the second term as Senator, he was Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriation and Finance. Mr. Moon is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Muskegon, and in this connection his name is well known throughout the State as one of the most active workers, both in time and means, in the interests of that denomination.

Mr. Moon was first married in February, 1860, to Sarah M. Miller, of Jackson County, Mich., who died in October, 1861. In November of 1863 he married for his second wife Miss Cynthia A. Hough, of Ionia County, Mich. She died May 8, 1866. He was united in marriage January 23, 1867, with Miss Alice M. Noble (his present wife), a native of New York State, but her father dying during her childhood she emigrated to Michigan with her mother and brothers in 1857. To them have been born six children, as follows: Paul S., who was born March 1, 1868; Grace N., March 18, 1869; Dora A., March 28, 1874; Roy E., March 15, 1875; John W., Jr., February 22, 1882; and Alice M., April 7, 1884.

A Muskegon gentleman contributes the following: "The writer has had the pleasure of an acquaintance with the subject of this sketch for more than twenty years. At its commencement, Mr. Moon was a young man, actively engaged in operating a sawmill here, under contract with the owners, by which arrangement he saved a few thousand dollars. This sum, together with his



characteristic energy and high integrity, formed the foundation of his present fortune and noble business reputation. He is large in stature, in benevolence, in public spirit and in heart. He is of even temper, genial disposition and warm sympathies. I doubt if a person in real need and trouble ever applied to him without receiving a kind word and substantial aid. Many a young man now engaged in business has reason to be thankful for Mr. Moon's kind and valuable counsel, often coupled with material assistance. His character is of the highest, and his habits unexceptional. His religious convictions are pronounced, and pervade his every-day life. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since he was twenty-one years of age, and is one of the most prominent and liberal members within the State, though his reputation as a generous and cheerful giver to the church, its institutions and benevolence is by no means confined to our own commonwealth. By nature modest and retiring, yet his high character and integrity and broad and intelligent ideas have forced him into many positions of trust and responsibility in the business and political world, the duties of all of which have been promptly and faithfully performed. Altogether, it may be said of him that he is a broad-minded, public-spirited, benevolent Christian gentleman, whose daily motto would seem to be 'Good-will to all men' "



**E**MERY J. BEAN, M. D., a successful physician and surgeon, enjoying a large practice in Muskegon, Mich., and making a specialty of chronic diseases, in whose treatment he has achieved some marvelous cures and almost invariably relieved suffering, resides at No. 21 Clay Avenue, and is widely known not only in the city, but throughout the surrounding country and county of Ottawa. Our subject is a native of the rock-bound coast of Maine and was born within the limits of Oxford County on the 13th

of June, 1850. His father, George W. Bean, who was likewise a native of Maine, was the son of Timothy Bean, the paternal grandfather having also been born in Maine. The remote ancestors were of English birth, but in the year 1700 a paternal forefather of the Beans, forsaking the associations of his early life, crossed the Atlantic, and, landing upon the shores of New England, founded a family earnest in purpose, steadfast in faith and law-abiding in principle, and ensured to Maine a line of descendants all of whom occupied positions of useful influence, and some of whom have risen to distinction in the professional and literary world.

The mother of our subject was Mary Estes, also born in Maine and a daughter of Isaac Estes, a native of Maine, the Estes family having been associated with the growth and progress of the good old State from a very early day in its history, but the remote ancestors were English and descendants of a long line of loyal British subjects. Dr. Bean passed the days of his boyhood in Oxford County, and prepared for college in Kent Hill, taking a classical course and graduating with honor in 1872. Immediately succeeding the completion of his studies in Kent Hill, our subject entered upon the profession of a teacher, and for four years taught successfully in the near vicinity of his home. In 1873 Dr. Bean decided to try the broader fields of the West, and emigrated to Michigan. He at first located in Ludington, there engaging profitably in merchandising, and for five years gave his undivided time to the details of the business with excellent financial results. Our subject, however, had a preference for a professional career, and gave up business and once again resumed study.

Dr. Bean found a preceptor in Dr. A. D. Kibbie, a prominent physician of Ludington, with whom he read medicine, and later took a course of lectures in the State University of Ann Arbor. Our subject afterward took a second course in the Medical College at Memphis, Tenn., and was graduated in 1886, immediately afterward engaging in general practice and surgery in Grand Rapids. Dr. Bean soon removed from Michigan to Tennessee, and prosperously practiced in that

State and Alabama until 1892, when he took a post-graduate course in Rush Medical College, of Chicago, and thence came direct to Muskegon, where he gives much of his attention to chronic troubles and aggravated forms of disease. The success of Dr. Bean in many extreme cases has brought him patients from far-off Iowa, Illinois and St. Louis, Mo., as well as distant parts of Michigan.

In 1871 Dr. Emery J. Bean and Miss Edwina McAlister were united in marriage. Mrs. Bean is a native of Maine and a daughter of Ephraim McAlister, well known in New England. One son, Reo F., a student at Rush Medical College, blessed the union of our subject and his estimable wife. Following in the footsteps of his father, the son is now preparing himself for the unselfish and exacting life of a physician. Our subject, while not a politician nor especially active in public matters, is deeply interested in Governmental issues, and is intelligently posted on all the questions of the hour.



**B**ENJAMIN LILLIE, a highly esteemed pioneer citizen and prominent general agriculturist of Ottawa County, Mich., came with his brother Timothy to this State in 1843, and, locating three miles north of where Lamont now stands, they were the first white settlers of Wright Township. The brothers made their own road from Lamont, then only a landing place, known as Steele's Landing, to their farms, which at first were heavily timbered claims of a quarter-section each, covered with a dense growth of beech and maple. The brother later died on his homestead, leaving a large family.

Our subject was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where he received an education, and attained to manhood. He was married there to Miss Phulena Dickenson, and soon after, determining to try his fortune in the West, left her in the old home while he came to Michigan to prospect and secure some

place to which he might bring his young wife. In the fall of 1843 Mrs. Lillie joined her husband in Ottawa County, and the two, reunited, entered with ambition into founding a new home amid the pioneer scenes and yet almost wilderness of this part of the State. Year after year Mr. Lillie devoted himself to the pursuit of agriculture, and, as the woods yielded to his axe and the cultivated soil responded to a bounteous harvest, financial prosperity crowned the industry and thrift of husband and wife.

Ten children with their bright presence blessed the home of these early settlers of Michigan. After many years the faithful companion, who had shared the early struggles of our subject, passed away, mourned by all who knew her. Mr. Lillie after some time wedded again, and, once more bereaved by the death of a wife, a third time entered into matrimonial bonds and became the father of a numerous progeny. Until 1889 Mr. Lillie continued to make his residence in Ottawa County, but at that date removed to New Iberia, La., where he is now engaged in the cultivation of sugar-cane.

Roswell Lillie, the second son of Benjamin and Phulena (Dickenson) Lillie, a very successful attorney-at-law and a prominent citizen of Coopersville, was born in Wright Township and grew up to a self-reliant and enterprising manhood in Ottawa County. Having first enjoyed the benefit of a good common-school education, Mr. Lillie afterward graduated with honor from the State Agricultural College, and later read law in Lansing, Mich. While pursuing his legal studies he taught school, and through his own efforts has steadily won his upward way to assured success. In 1873 he opened a law office in Coopersville, and has since continued his residence in the locality.

In 1873 were united in marriage Roswell Lillie and Miss Mary Bennett, of Ann Arbor, in which latter place Mr. Lillie attended law lectures at the University, after being admitted to the Bar in Lansing in the year 1872. Settling in Coopersville in the spring of 1873, he associated himself in the mercantile business with E. J. McNaughton. Afterward he sold out and spent four years in

Mississippi, where he handled merchandise, but in January, 1893, he sold out there and returned again to his early home.

Mr. Lillie is a staunch Democrat and held the office of Postmaster under the first administration of Cleveland, resigning in 1889 to go into other business. He has held with ability nearly every office within the gift of the people of Polkton Township, and in the spring of 1893 was elected to the office of Supervisor. For nine consecutive years his father held the responsible position of Supervisor of Wright Township, and as a public officer commanded the confidence of all who knew him. Roswell Lillie has two children, a son and a daughter, Ella and Hal. The parents are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are active in good work. Fraternaly, Mr. Lillie is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and, prominently identified with the growing interests of the home of his youth, is a popular man, possessed of a wide acquaintance and a host of friends.



**H**ANS ASLAKSON, one of the representative and progressive farmers of Holton Township, Muskegon County, residing on section 36, claims Norway as the land of his nativity, his birth having occurred twelve miles west of Christiana in 1833. He is a son of Aslak and Karen (Hanson) Torbaruson. The father was a molder in an iron foundry, and followed that business from childhood. He began learning the trade at the age of ten years, and until his death carried on operations along that line. Both he and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject is one of a family of six children and the only one who ever came to the United States. He acquired a good literary education in the common schools of Norway, which he attended until sixteen years of age, and later he was a stu-

dent in a school of mathematics, where he prepared himself for the life of a sailor. In his early youth he was trained to habits of industry and usefulness and was early inured to hard labor. At the age of eleven he began working at the molder's trade with his father, and was thus employed for seven years, when, at the age of eighteen, he shipped before the mast. He was on a voyage for two years, during which time the vessel stopped at the port of Newcastle (England), at Italy, Dublin (Ireland), and New York, then went to the West Indies, returning thence to Liverpool, England, and on home. Mr. Aslakson then attended a navigation school for about two months, after which he again sailed. He remained upon the high seas until 1853, which year witnessed his emigration to the New World.

On coming to America our subject made his way to Milwaukee, Wis., and at once began sailing on the Lakes. He was thus employed until 1878. He sailed as mate for about ten years and was then promoted, being made captain of the vessel "Pauline," of Chicago, which he commanded for seven years. He afterward was captain of other ships. He was once wrecked by a storm and driven onto the rocks at Pilot Island, near Green Bay, while captain of the vessel "Henry Norton."

During his residence in Milwaukee, Mr. Aslakson was married, in 1859, the lady of his choice being Miss Ellen M. Olson, daughter of Christian and Bertha M. Olson. Their union was blessed by a family of ten children, as follows: Caroline M., wife of John Maakestad; Louisa A.; Alexander; Ellen S.; Nora; Christina, wife of John Anderson; Christian, Anna, Norman and Benjamin. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1882, and her loss was deeply mourned by her family and many friends. In 1869, Mr. Aslakson purchased eighty acres of land in Muskegon County, Mich., and removed his family hither. During the winter season while his services were not required on the Lakes, he cleared his land and began the development of a farm, to the cultivation and improvement of which he has devoted his entire time and attention since leaving the Lakes. He has now a good home and farm. Possessing the thrifty and industrious habits of

his people, he has acquired a comfortable competence and now ranks among the substantial citizens of the community. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and is a member of the Lutheran Church.



**HON. JAMES GOW.** Of the various enterprises that have made Muskegon one of the prominent cities of the county, the lumber trade has always held an important place, employing large capital in its conduct and giving to cognate industries a decided impetus by the energy and ability displayed in its development. In every department the enterprise characteristic of its leading exponents has been abundantly shown, and the flourishing character of their establishments amply demonstrates the vigorous grasp with which they have seized and held the trade in this gigantic national industry. Among the most active, enterprising men engaged in the lumber business is Hon. James Gow, ex-Mayor of Muskegon, Mich.

This representative citizen is a native of Canada, born March 17, 1846, to the union of John and Mary (Patterson) Gow, both natives of Canada, where they made their homes all their lives. Mrs. Gow's father was John Patterson. Our subject passed his boyhood in his native country and spent his early days in attending the common schools of his neighborhood. He continued in school and on his father's farm until sixteen years of age, when he was employed in a sawmill. There he remained until twenty years of age, and received \$9 per month for his services and his board. In 1866 he came to the United States and located in Muskegon, Mich., where he entered the employ of Mr. Turnbull in a sawmill. Afterward he was in different mills until he had acquired a thorough knowledge of the sawmill and lumber business.

In the year 1881 our subject branched out in business on his own account in partnership with

Mr. Mayers, and the firm name became Gow, Mayers & Co. They engaged in the manufacture of lumber and continued in business together for years. Finally they took in a partner, and have been engaged since in the manufacture of pine and hemlock lumber. The mills are on North Muskegon Lake and Mr. Gow is deeply interested in pine lands. He has the very best machinery in his mills and employs a large force of men. In 1874 he was married to Miss Julia S. Burch, a native of London, England, and the daughter of Samuel Burch, also a native of England. Mrs. Gow came to the United States when but a child, and settled in Muskegon, Mich., in her girlhood. Two children have blessed this union, Ena M. and Eva H.

Mr. Gow is an ardent supporter of Republican principles and takes a deep interest in politics. He served one term as Assessor, and in 1892 he was elected Mayor of Muskegon, holding that position one term and discharging the duties of the same in a very satisfactory manner. He is a prominent Mason, a Knight Templar and a member of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In 1891 he erected his fine residence on Peck Street, one of the most pleasant homes in the city.



**HARLEY C. BEMENT,** an honored pioneer settler and representative general agriculturist of Allendale Township, Ottawa County, Mich., is a native of Steuben County, N. Y., and was born January 3, 1835. He was the seventh child of a family of ten children born unto the union of Harley and Eliza (Briggs) Bement, natives of New York. The father, a farmer, left the Empire State for Michigan in 1836, and, arriving safe and sound at his destination, located in Macomb County, being one of the first settlers within its limits. Michigan was yet a Territory, and the nearest neighbor was four miles away. He purchased land of the Government and

as rapidly as possible transformed his acres into a productive farm. At first the family were obliged to go to Mt. Clemens for their flour, and the father frequently carried it on his back the long distance of fifteen miles. The Indians, who were numerous, were usually harmless, although given to dishonesty, and upon one occasion during the absence of the family stole everything the house held, even carrying away the clothing of the mother and children. The father followed the Indians two days and recovered their table-knives, all ground to fine points, and his wife's silk dress, which had been cut short in the skirt to be worn by the Indians. The daughters' dresses were served in like manner, and everything which had been carried away was more or less injured.

Being a great hunter, the father was enabled to furnish meat for the table fresh from the woods, which abounded in game. In 1839 or 1840, the family removed to Ingham County, then one of the new counties of the State, the Bemets being also pioneers of this locality. Here the husband, wife and children lived much the same as before for a time. The father assisted in building the first sawmill erected in Hardy, Livingston County, and which was on the county line of Livingston and Ingham Counties. He placed the largest log in that mill ever used in the construction of any building in the State, the said log being sixteen feet in length and six feet through at the top or small end. Remaining there until 1853, the father then made his home with his family in Georgetown, where he engaged in farming and lumbering. He followed these various pursuits until the breaking out of the War, in 1860, then, fired with patriotic enthusiasm, enlisted in the service of the Government. Born in about 1794, and his first wife in 1800, he was only a lad of eighteen when he joined the Sixth New York Infantry, and fought with courage in the War of 1812. He engaged with valor in the battle of Plattsburgh and took an active part in other fights, in one of which he was slightly wounded. He served throughout the period of the war and was honorably discharged at the close. Now, when again the country had need of him, although no longer young, he promptly responded, entering Company D,

Seventh Michigan Cavalry, and enlisting as Veteran Surgeon of the company. He was attached to the Third Corps of the Army of the Potomac, but only engaged in one battle, which was fought in Virginia.

The father was one of the most robust men in the county when he entered the service, but when discharged from the hospital in Washington, D. C., having served one year, his constitution was so shattered by exposures and privations that he was a physical wreck, and upon his return home was not able to do a day's work. Although then in his seventieth year he survived the scenes of the war until March 3, 1882. For eight years prior to the war he ably administered the law as Justice of the Peace, and in this office gave universal satisfaction to the general public. He was twice married. The first wife lost her life by the burning of their house in the township of Groton, she being alone at the time. This was in June, 1856. The father and mother were both devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of the ten children who brightened the old home, all lived to maturity. Harriet married L. Brown, and resides in Olive Township; Levi is deceased; Naomi, deceased, was the wife of J. J. Christian; Lavina is the wife of Pat Roe, of Grand Rapids; Silas, who lives in Isabella County, Mich., served with courage nearly two years in the late war, and was wounded in the fight at Seven Pines or Fair Oaks; Eliza, deceased, was the wife of Moses Buxson; Harley C. is our subject; Clemons died in the army at Chattanooga, Tenn., in 1863; and Priscilla and Silas are deceased. The father, a second time marrying, was then wedded to Mrs. Annie (Wood) Parker, who still survives and now, in her eighty-fifth year, makes her home with our subject.

Harley C. Bemets was educated in the common schools and mainly reared upon a farm, although he had engaged in lumbering as well prior to the war. Upon June 10, 1861, he enlisted in Company I, Third Michigan Infantry, and was in the Third Corps, Army of the Potomac. At the time of enlistment he was made a non-commissioned officer and received promotion as sergeant. He actively engaged in the decisive engagements of Bull Run, Yorktown, Williamsburgh, Fair Oaks,

Seven Days' Fight, and around Richmond, and also participated in the second battle of Bull Run, in which encounter he was three times wounded, first through his left hand. Before he could get off the field he was shot in the fleshy part of the right thigh, the third wound being given by a grape shot, which struck him in the back, tearing his cartridge box into pieces. From the effects of this latter shot our subject has never entirely recovered. Mr. Bement was then sent to Bellevue (N. Y.) Hospital, from which place he was discharged in November, 1862, and returned at once to his home and family in Michigan. Since then he has devoted himself to farming and threshing, and for seven years farmed for Edward Cole, of Ottawa County, hauling logs and lumber from the woods to the sawmill.

In 1875, our subject went to Utah for the purpose of mining, first stopping at Salt Lake City. He remained in Utah one summer, but not finding his mining venture a success returned home and engaged in farming in the township of Groton, from where he later removed to his present farm of eighty acres in 1882. At the time Mr. Bement purchased his Allendale Township homestead, the land was entirely unimproved, but the farm now contains fifty highly cultivated acres. In February, 1892, the residence and contents were entirely destroyed, and since then our subject has erected a handsome two-story frame building at a cost of \$1,100.

In 1857, were united in marriage Harley C. Bement and Miss Marinda Parker, a native of Ohio, and daughter of E. W. and Annie (Wood) Parker, who came to this State in 1855. Mrs. Parker later became the wife and widow of the father of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Parker were the parents of seven children: Andrew, who resides in Ingham County; Amanda, deceased, who was the wife of J. Corlis; Herrick, deceased; George, a citizen of Butler County, Mo.; Marinda, the wife of our subject; Ezekiel, who lives in Denison, Tex.; and Benjamin, who died in 1893, at Tucson, Ariz. Our subject and his estimable wife have been blessed by the birth of ten children. Lemuel was the eldest-born; Medora is the widow of Seth Barager, of Grand Rapids; Clemons, Pearl, Benjamin C., Annie, Al-

bert, Charles and Maude complete the list of intelligent sons and daughters who gathered about the family fireside.

Mr. and Mrs. Bement are both valued members of the First Christian Church of Georgetown. Fraternally, our subject is a member of William Thuskittle Post No. 388, G. A. R. of which Mr. Bement was Commander two years and is now Senior-Vice. In 1883, Clemons Bement was thrown from a horse, and, his head being injured, was an invalid five years, and two years of the time was upon his back in bed and could not be turned nor moved. Science restored him in a great measure to health, but excellent care and a large outlay of money were needed to save his life and give him permanent relief. The family of our subject, widely known and highly esteemed, occupy positions of useful influence and command the confidence of many sincere friends.



**J**OHN T. DAYTON, M. D., widely known as a successful physician and skilled surgeon of Berlin, Ottawa County, Mich., is the son of Abner Dayton, a native of Vermont, and a man of fine character and professional ability. Born in 1800, the father enjoyed excellent educational advantages, and was a graduate of medicine, receiving his diploma in Castleton, Rutland County, Vt., in 1830. Later he became a leading physician of the Empire State, first locating in Rensselaer County, but afterward removing to Cayuga County and settling in Westbury, where he rapidly acquired an excellent practice, and for eight years devoted himself entirely to professional duties. From Cayuga County, the father journeyed to Allegany County, and for about eight years made his home in Wellsville. At the expiration of that time, Dr. Abner Dayton emigrated to Michigan, and remained for a short time in the village of Saline. He then settled in Sandstone, Jackson County, and resided in that

locality about ten years. His last home was in Mosherville, where he remained until his death, in 1864. He passed away mourned as a friend, neighbor and physician, and left behind him the memory of a well-spent life.

Dr. John T. Dayton was born in Columbia County, N. Y., in 1831, but he early removed with his parents to Cayuga County, and from there to Allegany County, in which place he received his primary education and attained to manhood. He pursued the study of his profession in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and then returned to Allegany County, where he for a time was profitably engaged in lumbering. Removing from Allegany County to Jackson County, Mich., the Doctor remained in that locality but a brief period, when he removed to Hanover, Hillsdale County, and there remained for the succeeding twelve months. Our subject finally made a permanent home in Berlin, where through storm or sunshine, until his health forbade, he went the wearying rounds incidental to the life of the family physician. He thus formed a wide acquaintance and made many friends. He is perhaps as well known in northern Ottawa as any man in the county.

In 1852, Dr. John T. Dayton and Miss Martha M. Rolfe, of Allegany County, N. Y., were married. Mrs. Dayton was born in the Empire State, and her parents were widely known and highly respected by the friends and neighbors of their lifetime. Four children, all surviving, blessed the pleasant home. Charles F., married, resides in Grand Rapids; Clinton L. is a successful attorney-at-law of Leelanaw County, Mich.; Lois C. is the wife of A. U. Dickerson, of Reno, Mich.; and Delia Dayton Sackett resides in Greenfield, Tenn.

Our subject bought sixty acres of his present farm soon after locating in Berlin, and now owns one hundred and eight acres, mostly wild land when purchased by the Doctor, but now, with the exception of six acres, entirely under a high state of cultivation. Conducting with highly profitable results general farming, Dr. Dayton also cultivates a variety of berries, for which he finds a ready market. Although yet in the active practice of his profession, our subject at times is un-

able to undergo the fatigues of the long rides to distant patients. His good wife is a valued member of the Methodist Church, and both are ever ready to lend a helping hand in behalf of religious work and enterprise. Fraternally, the Doctor has been long connected with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and has many sincere friends among the order. Politically a Republican, he is an ardent advocate of the party, and, interested in local and National government, yet has no desire to hold office. He and his family enjoy the respect and best wishes of all who know them and worthily occupy positions of useful influence.



**J**OOST KOOLMAN, who is now living a retired life in Grand Haven, is one of the worthy and esteemed citizens that Holland has furnished to Ottawa County. He was born in the Netherlands on the 17th of January, 1834, and is a son of Albert and Elizabeth (Van Der Meigen) Kooiman. His parents were also natives of Holland. Leaving their native land they emigrated to America and took up their residence in Michigan, where their last days were passed.

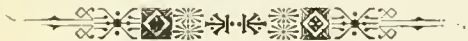
Our subject spent the days of his childhood and youth in the Old Country midst play and work, no event of special importance occurring during his early years. He was a young man of twenty-one when he decided to leave his home and seek a fortune in the New World, of whose advantages and privileges he had heard such excellent accounts. Bidding good-bye to the friends of his youth and to the land of his birth, he in 1855 shipped as second cook on a vessel which landed him in New York City. He went from there to Buffalo, N. Y., and thence to Grand Haven, Mich., where he located.

Mr. Kooiman here began working on the docks as a laborer, and was thus employed for several years. During that time he lived in an economical and frugal manner, and invested his savings in real estate. From time to time he has made judi-

cious investments in such property, and as the land has risen in value as the population has increased, Mr. Kooiman now owns extensive landed interests.

On the 21st of August, 1860, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Antoine Dunker, a native of Holland. By their union has been born a family of six children, who are as follows: Otto, a farmer of Ottawa County; John; Elizabeth; Annie, wife of John Justeman, of Grand Haven; Peter, who is now twenty-three years of age; and Laura, who completes the family. Mrs. Kooiman is a member of the First Reformed Church. In his political affiliations, Mr. Kooiman is a Democrat, but the honors or emoluments of public office have no attraction for him.

The wisdom and foresight of our subject in business matters have been shown by the success which has attended his ventures. He believed that it would be a profitable investment to put his money in real estate, and the years have borne out this opinion. As the county has become more thickly populated and the work of progress and civilization has been carried forward, our subject has reaped a harvest from his possessions, for the land has greatly increased in value. He still owns some fine lots and residence property, which yields to him a good income. He may truly be called a self-made man, for his success is due entirely to his own efforts.



**A**NNA VANDEN BOSCH. In mentioning those of foreign birth who have become closely associated with the farming interests of Ottawa County, Mich., we should not fail to present an outline of the career of Mr. Vanden Bosch, for he is one who has fully borne out the reputation of that class of industrious, energetic and far-seeing men of Holland nativity who have become prominent in their different callings in this county. In everything connected with the growth and prosperity of the county he

has taken an active interest, and as a tiller of the soil he stands in the foremost ranks. Born in the province of Overijssel, in the Netherlands, in 1830, he is the son of Tam and Jrieje (Bunt) Vanden Bosch, and the grandson of Jacob and Anna (Bunt) Vanden Bosch, all natives of Holland. The grandfather followed the occupation of a farmer and owned the land on which he lived. His son, the father of our subject, was also a tiller of the soil in his native country, and was at one time the owner of eighty acres.

Tam Vanden Bosch crossed the ocean in 1848, and with limited means made his way to Ottawa County, Mich., settling in Grand Haven. Later he was one of the first white settlers to locate near the present city of Zeeland, and there he entered eighty acres of land, on which he passed the remainder of his days. His wife died in 1868, and he breathed his last on the farm where he had spent the best years of his life, in 1877, when seventy-seven years of age. The community found in this worthy pioneer a faithful and unswerving friend, ever alert to serve its best interest and generous in his contributions toward every movement tending to the general advancement. His children, nine in number, were as follows: Koene, residing in Grand Haven; Melvin, residing in Zeeland; Peter, a resident of Holland; Jacob, residing in Zeeland; Anna, our subject; Anna (daughter), residing in Grand Rapids; Tallijen, who makes her home in Zeeland; Jrieje, in Zeeland; and John, in Minnesota.

The original of this notice was seventeen years of age when he came with his parents to America, and assisted his father in clearing and improving a farm. When twenty years of age he was married to Miss Jane Myer, and immediately afterward bought land. To their union were born four children, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are Tam and Maggie, both residing in Grand Haven. After residing for some time on the farm he had first purchased, he sold out and purchased eighty acres where he now lives, all wild and uncultivated. This farm he has since cleared and improved, and all the buildings have been erected by himself.

In 1891 Mrs. Vanden Bosch died, and he sub-



sequently married Miss Jane Gebben, who bore him one child, John. It is but just to say that our subject occupies a conspicuous and honorable place among the worthy residents of Ottawa County, for he has always been honest, industrious and enterprising. He is well known in agricultural circles, and is recognized as a careful, energetic farmer, who by his advanced ideas and perseverance has done much to improve the farming interests of his section. In politics, he was formerly a Republican, but now advocates the principles of the Democratic party. For about five years he served as Road Overseer, at Noordeloos. He is a member of the Seceder Church.



**C**HARLES H. CLARK. As an example of the usefulness and prominence to which men of character and determination may attain, it is but necessary to chronicle the life of Charles H. Clark, the efficient and capable Register of Deeds of Ottawa County, Mich. He is a man of superior mental endowments, strengthened and enriched by the highest culture. He impresses one at once as a man of unusual strength, depth and grasp of mind, and is possessed of a large share of those traits of character that go to make up a popular citizen. He is a native of the Pine Tree State, born in Augusta February 8, 1835, and the son of Charles and Louisa (Dearborn) Clark, both natives of Maine. The latter was the daughter of Asa Dearborn, who was born in the old Bay State. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation, and followed that business for many years in the State of Maine. To his marriage were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, Charles H. being the eldest.

The latter passed his school days in Augusta, Me., and when eighteen years of age decided to make his way toward the setting sun. He reached Michigan and settled in Ottawa Township, Ottawa County, where he engaged in the lumber business, and continued in this for some time, in fact get-

ting his start in this business. In 1855 he was married to Miss Abbie H. Wall, a native of Maine, who died in 1872, leaving seven children, four of whom are living: Charles F., a prominent farmer of this county; Hattie H., the wife of James Bignell, of this State; Harriet, wife of Benjamin Barton, who resides in North Dakota; and Walter H., a lumberman and farmer, who makes his home in this county. All the children were well educated and taught school for some time.

Mr. Clark selected his second wife in the person of Augusta B. Wall, sister of his first wife, and their union was solemnized in 1877. She was a most excellent woman, and died in 1887, leaving no children. In his political views, Mr. Clark is a strong advocate of Republican principles, and for twenty years held the office of Supervisor. In the fall of 1892 he was elected Register of Deeds on the Republican ticket, and assumed the duties of the office on the 1st of January, 1893. He has proved himself eminently worthy of the confidence reposed in him by all classes, and as an honorable, upright citizen his reputation is not merely local, but extends over a wide stretch of country. Genial and courteous, straightforward in his dealings, prompt in the discharge of his duties, and of exemplary habits, he has the respect and esteem of all who know him. Socially, he is a member of Grand Haven Lodge No. 139, A. F. & A. M.



**I**SAAC R. FRANKS. Our country owes a debt of gratitude it can never repay to the valiant defenders of the Old Flag, who, through storm and sunshine, marched bravely forward, enduring the summer's heat and the winter's cold, the hardships of camp life and the perils of active engagements with the foe. These veterans of the war, who sacrificed every comfort and periled their lives in the Union cause, have been widely scattered as the years have passed by; some have fought their last battle and have now entered

upon the enjoyment of the final victory; others still survive, maimed and scarred it may be, but still taking their part as public-spirited citizens in the issues of the day. Among the survivors of the war who experienced all the horrors of the Rebellion may be mentioned the name of Isaac R. Franks.

Now a successful agriculturist of Moorland Township, Muskegon County, our subject was born in Hardy County, Va., on the 9th of February, 1826. He is a son of Isaac and Sarah (Harris) Franks, natives of Upper Virginia. His father, who was a farmer by occupation, removed to Ohio in 1829 and sojourned in Ashland County until 1836. He then removed to DeKalb County, Ind., and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1873. Of twelve children, our subject was among the youngest. He was taken by his parents to Ohio at the age of three years, and spent his childhood in Ashland County. He grew to manhood in DeKalb County, Ind., meantime receiving ordinary educational advantages.

May 25, 1851, Mr. Franks was united in marriage with Miss Alzina C., daughter of Lewis and Mary (Kise) Merryfield, and after his marriage he followed farming pursuits in DeKalb and Lagrange Counties, Ind., until the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1862 he enlisted in the service of his country, his name being enrolled as a member of Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana Infantry, First Brigade, First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, Gen. Thomas commanding. He is the survivor of many long marches and a number of hard-fought battles. He accompanied Gen. Sherman on his memorable march to the sea as far as Atlanta, and after the fall of that city he was sent to Jeffersonville on account of disability. From that place he was ordered to Nashville, and there received his discharge January 7, 1865. He now receives a pension of \$8 per month.

During 1867 Mr. Franks made settlement in Moorland, Muskegon County, where he has since resided. In civic life, as in the army, he is courageous, upright and persevering, and his name is a synonym for truth and honor. Although a great physical sufferer, the result of hardship and privation during his army service, he has always

been very industrious and has labored diligently to secure his present home. He and his wife have been the parents of five children, four of whom are living: James L., John R., Sarah E. and Albert G. Mary A. is deceased. Socially, Mr. Franks is prominent in the Order of Maccabees and the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics a Republican, he has served as Justice of the Peace for several terms and has occupied other positions of trust.



**A**UGUST SACK, who devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits on section 19, Dalton Township, Muskegon County, is a native of Germany. He was born in Prussia in 1819, and comes of an old family of that land. His grandfather served for thirty years in the German army against the Pope. The father, grandfather and great-grandfather of our subject all bore the name of August, and it in turn descended to him and was given to one of his children. August Sack, the father of our subject, after arriving at man's estate married Louisa Lose, and they became the parents of the following children: August, Ernest, Frederick, Fernit, William and Wilhelmina.

August Sack, Sr., was a sailor by occupation and followed that business throughout the greater part of his life. He became the owner of a vessel and was also its captain and sailed on the Baltic and North Seas. Until about 1853, he remained on the deep, but at that time he had a vessel loaded with rye and in a storm lost his cargo. Soon afterward he sold the ship and purchased a farm in the Fatherland, upon which he and his wife spent their remaining days. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and was a man of sterling worth.

Under the parental roof the early childhood days of our subject were quietly passed, but with a love of the sea, inherited from his father, he too shipped as a sailor at the age of fifteen and was upon the rolling main until thirty-five years

of age. The year 1853 witnessed his emigration to the New World. He landed in New York, and by way of the Lakes and the Erie Canal came to Michigan. In 1854, we find him in Muskegon County, where he has since made his home, covering a period of almost forty years.

Ere leaving New York, however, Mr. Sack was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Sophia Storfe, who has been a faithful companion and helpmate to him in the years which have since come and gone. Eight children have been born of their union, but two of the number died in childhood and August died at the age of thirty-three years. Elizabeth is now the wife of Andrew Miller. William is the next younger. Lena is the wife of William Hanson, and Caroline and Frederick complete the number. Mr. Sack and his family are all members of the Lutheran Church. In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party, but has never been an aspirant for office. He is numbered among Muskegon County's early settlers and has therefore been an eye-witness of much of its growth and progress. He has also aided in its development, and the best interests of the community find in him a friend.



**W**ILLIAM M. ANGEL, City Recorder of Grand Haven, was born in Mooers, Clinton County, N. Y., December 16, 1825. He traces his ancestry to Thomas Angel, who emigrated from England to America in 1625, being the first representative of the family in this country. Grandfather Asa Angel was born in Rhode Island, and the father of our subject opened his eyes to the light in Champlain, N. Y., in 1800. The mother of our subject was Mary Keyes, a native of Vermont.

The third in a family which consisted of four sons and two daughters, William M. Angel spent his childhood years in Clinton County. At the age of ten he accompanied his father to Portage County, Ohio, and there spent eight years, mean-

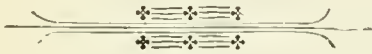
time attending the common schools and completing his education in an academy, where he prosecuted his studies for two terms. In the fall of 1842 he removed to Ottawa County, Mich., and located in Tallmadge Township, where he followed farming pursuits for a few years. While residing there, he was attacked with sciatic rheumatism, which resulted in a dislocation of the hip.

In the fall of 1848 Mr. Angel was elected Register of Deeds for Muskegon County and has served in all six years. At the expiration of his period of public service, he resumed farming operations in Tallmadge Township, and continued thus engaged for two years. However, on account of his lameness, he found it necessary to select a less active vocation than that of agriculture, and accordingly entered Bryant & Stratton's Business College, where he spent the winter of 1856-57. Upon finishing his commercial studies, he accepted a position as book-keeper in a country store at Eastmanville, and remained there for five years. Later he came to Grand Haven and secured a position as book-keeper for a merchant and vessel-owner, with whom he remained for eighteen months. We next find him in the drug business, under the firm name of Angel & North, in which he continued for four and one-half years, when he disposed of his interest in the store.

For a time thereafter Mr. Angel conducted an extensive dry-goods business, the firm title being Angel & Beaudry. In December, 1869, the store was burned to the ground, and as there was no insurance it proved a total loss to the proprietors. They were enabled, however, to pay seventy cents on every dollar of their indebtedness. In the spring of 1870 Mr. Angel was elected Recorder and Police Justice, holding these positions for two years. He then formed a law partnership with L. B. Soule, of Ionia, Mich., which continued for eighteen months. Afterward he was in partnership at different times with various prominent lawyers. In 1887 he was elected to the office of City Recorder, and was re-elected in 1889, 1892 and 1893.

The marriage of Mr. Angel occurred in 1853, and united him with Miss Ann M. Everts, of Grand Rapids, Mich., the daughter of Schadrick

Everts, of that place. Mrs. Angel was born in Niagara County, N. Y. By her marriage she became the mother of eight children, seven sons and one daughter, four of whom died in infancy. Charles H. died January 9, 1893, when in his twenty-fourth year. The surviving members of the family are: Anna, wife of D. W. Andrus, of Detroit; George E., of Detroit; and Harry A., residing in Chicago.



**O**LE C. OLSON, who is engaged in farming on section 35, Holton Township, Muskegon County, now owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, of which one hundred acres are under a high state of cultivation. In addition to the well-tilled fields there are many other good improvements, and the neat appearance of the place indicates the careful supervision of a thrifty and painstaking owner, such as our subject is known to be.

Mr. Olson was born on his father's farm in Norway in 1842. His parents were Christian and Bertha M. (Taufson) Olson. The former received quite a limited education, and throughout his life devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. He was married in his native land and by the union were born six children, of whom one died in early life. Those who came to the United States are: Caroline, wife of Swen Swenson; Ellen M., deceased, wife of Hans Aslakson; Ole, Tom and Christian. In 1854 the parents left their native land and, accompanied by their family, came to America, locating in Milwaukee, Wis. After a year Mr. Olson removed to Muskegon County, settling first in Fruitland Township, but after a short time he removed to the neighborhood in which our subject now resides. During his early residence in this State he worked at lumbering. He bought land of the Government until he had secured several hundred acres, but when the timber was cut off the land was worthless and he let it go back to the State for taxes. He

finally entered eighty acres near where Ole now resides, it being a wild tract covered with hardwood timber, and he had to cut the road for about three miles to his farm. He died in 1883, at the age of seventy-two years. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, as is also his wife, who still survives him. He was born in March, 1808.

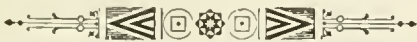
The subject of this sketch remained with his parents until they came to Michigan. He was then fourteen years of age. Wishing to improve his education, he remained in Milwaukee working at whatever he could find to do in order to secure a livelihood and make it possible for him to attend school for two more years. On the expiration of that period he joined his parents, and remained with them until twenty years of age. The following winter was spent in the lumber woods on the Muskegon River.

In the spring of 1862 Mr. Olson entered the service of his adopted country, enlisting as a member of Company F, Fifth Michigan Cavalry. He was never off duty a day until his company was mustered out at the close of the war. He participated in over fifty engagements, among the most important of which were the battles of Gettysburg, Falling Water, Ashby Gap, Summerville Ford, Robinson Ford, Brandy Station, Buckland Mills, Kilpatrick's Raid, the battle of the Wilderness, Yellow Tavern, Meadow Bridge, Haws' Shop, Cold Harbor, Travillion, Shepherdstown, Smithfield, Winchester, Cedar Creek, Madison Court House, Five Forks and Appomattox Court House. During all this time Mr. Olson was never wounded nor taken prisoner, but was always found at his post of duty, faithfully defending the Old Flag, which now floats so proudly over the united nation, and the cause which it represented. He was honorably discharged at Leavenworth, Kan., June 29, 1865, and was mustered out in Detroit.

Mr. Olson then returned to his home and began sailing on the Lakes during the summer months, while in the winter he worked in the forests. In the mean time he was married, in 1867, to Miss Anna Hanson, daughter of John and Louisa (Smith) Hanson. Six children came to bless their union, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. Mary, the eldest, is the wife of Hans Paulson.

The others are Louisa, Charles J., Andrew, Anna O. and Elizabeth. Mrs. Olson died February 8, 1880.

On leaving the Lakes Mr. Olson turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and entered one hundred and twenty acres of land where he now lives. He located upon his farm in 1872 and at once began its development, for it was then in its primitive condition. He has since extended its boundaries by the additional purchase of forty acres and has made of the place one of the best farms in the neighborhood. Mr. Olson has led a busy and useful life and his business affairs occupy much of his attention, yet he has found time to serve his fellow-townsmen in a number of official positions. For six years he served as Justice of the Peace, was Highway Commissioner and Township Treasurer, and with the exception of three years has been Supervisor since 1882. He discharged his public duties with promptness and fidelity and has therefore won high commendation. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and socially is a member of Dahlgren Post No. 149, G. A. R., of Holton. Mr. Olson also belongs to the Lutheran Church.



**H**W. BUSWELL. There is in the development of every successful life a principle which is a lesson to the man taking that life as an example; for let one be industriously ambitious and honorable in his ambitions, and he will rise, whether having the prestige of fortune and family, or the obscurity of poverty. We are led to these reflections in looking over the career of Mr. Buswell, who has attained his present enviable condition by indomitable energy and pluck. He was formerly one of the prominent lumbermen of Grand Haven, Mich., but is now retired from the active duties of life and has a most desirable home on Franklin Street.

Mr. Buswell claims New York as his native State, having been born in Essex County, August 8, 1830, to Jacob and Almira (Everest) Buswell,

the father a native of Massachusetts and the mother of New York. The father was a carpenter and joiner by occupation and followed that trade in the Empire State all his life. Our subject was the eldest son of his mother's second marriage, and moved with her to the Buckeye State when but a boy. There his mother spent her last days, and in the year 1865 our subject removed to Michigan, settled in Ottawa County, and for a period now closely approaching thirty years has been intimately identified with the interests of Ottawa County, his settlement in Grand Haven dating from about 1865. He engaged in the lumbering business with C. E. Wyman, under the firm title of Wyman, Buswell & Co., manufacturers of pine lumber, and continued in this business for a number of years. Up to 1884 he was engaged in the manufacture of lumber, but at that date the mill was burned and Mr. Buswell retired from the business. He is a substantial citizen, and by his superior intelligence and rare business ability and efficiency has been identified with the interests of Grand Haven and interested in its welfare. His business qualifications are of the highest order and he is recognized as one of the leading men of the city.

Our subject has been a Director in the National Bank for several years, is President of the Grand Haven Booming Company, a stockholder and Director in Dake's Engine Manufacturing Company, of Grand Haven, and President of the Grand Haven Match Company. Formerly a Whig in politics, he now affiliates with the Republican party, and is active in his support of its principles. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Hannah Trotter, a native of Summit County, Ohio, and two children were born to them, Forrest E. and Florence E. The mother of these children died in 1878, and in 1886 Mr. Buswell was wedded to Miss Ellen J. Cavanaugh, of Grand Haven. One child, H. W., is the result of this union. Progressive in his ideas and liberal in his support of all worthy movements, he is one of Ottawa County's most esteemed citizens. Most of his property has been accumulated by his own exertions, and he deserves much credit for his energy and industry.

**W**ORDEN G. BARNABY, agent for the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad at Hudsonville, is numbered among the progressive and popular young business men to whose influence Ottawa County is largely indebted for its present prosperity. He is the son of Samuel G. and Olive M. (Chamberlain) Barnaby, natives of New York, who were married in that State. Subsequently they removed to Pennsylvania and conducted agricultural pursuits in Potter County. The year 1862 witnessed their arrival in Michigan, and for three years they sojourned in Kalamazoo County. Thence they came to Ottawa County, where the father now makes his home on section 32, Georgetown Township. His wife departed this life in 1865. She was a devoted member of the Baptist Church, with which he is now identified, having in former years been a Sunday-school Superintendent.

Our subject is the only member left of his father's family, with the exception of his brother, Glenn A., who married Miss Carrie, daughter of John N. Waite (of whom see sketch presented on another page of this volume). Glenn Barnaby is a resident of Minneapolis, Minn. The senior Mr. Barnaby is a man of broad intelligence and liberal views, and is one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Ottawa County, having for years been closely connected with its growth and progress.

Born in Potter County, Pa., October 10, 1858, the subject of this sketch received his education principally in the neighboring school. He has gained his best education, however, in the school of experience, by self-culture and close observation. At the age of fourteen he began to be self-supporting, and for a time was employed in a grocery store, where he gave his services in exchange for his board and clothes. He continued thus engaged until 1879, his salary being meantime increased as he acquired a thorough understanding of the business. Afterward he accepted the position of night operator at Watervliet, where he remained for three years, and in the interval gained a complete knowledge of that line of railroad work.

In 1884 Mr. Barnaby located at Hudsonville,

accepting his present position as agent for the Chicago & West Michigan Railway Company, and has since served in that capacity. He was married, in 1886, to Miss Lizzie A., daughter of Nelson R. and Lucy F. (Spencer) Bonfoey, and a native of Watervliet, Mich., having been born in that city February 28, 1867. Her grandparents came to Michigan in an early day and settled in Berrien County, being numbered among the pioneers of the vicinity of Watervliet. Nelson R. Bonfoey was born in Richfield, N. Y., February 18, 1827, and married Miss Lucy F. Spencer, who was born in Atwater, Ohio, on the 9th of October, 1843. The maternal grandparents of our subject were Elias T. and Eliza (Smith) Spencer, the former a native of Middlefield, Mass., born on the 11th of August, 1815. Mr. Bonfoey and his estimable wife had a family of three children, two of whom are now living; they themselves are now living in Watervliet.

The marriage of Mr. Barnaby has been blessed by the birth of two children, Olive Lucy, who was born September 16, 1887, and Zora Izetta, whose birth occurred May 17, 1890. Mrs. Barnaby is a lady of prominence in Hudsonville, and is one of the active members of the Ladies' Union. Socially, our subject is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has filled the various chairs in the home lodge, being at present District Deputy Grand Master. While not active in politics, he is a staunch Democrat and upholds the principles of that party with his ballot.



**C**HARLES PETERSON, a farmer residing on section 20, Dalton Township, is one of the worthy citizens that Sweden has furnished to Muskegon County. He possesses the stability, perseverance and enterprise of his countrymen, characteristics which make them among the best of the adopted sons of America. He was born in the northern part of Sweden in 1840, and his parents, Peter and Hannah (Anderson) Anderson,

were also natives of the same locality, the father's birth occurring in 1790, while the mother was born in 1806. Peter Anderson was a farmer and operated rented land. Himself and wife were members of the Lutheran Church. Both died in 1880, within a few hours of each other, and were laid to rest in the same grave.

Our subject is one of five children, the other members of the family being John A., who died in Sweden; Anna, who died in this country; Augustus, who is living in Sweden; Caroline, wife of Charles Norris, of Muskegon County; and Charles, of this sketch. The latter spent his boyhood and youth in the land of his birth, where he was early inured to arduous labor. Since the tender age of eight years he has made his own way in the world. At that time he began to earn his own living by working on a farm. He received only ten cents per day, and out of that small amount had to board and clothe himself. At the age of twelve he began to work for his board and clothes, and for three years his wages were thus rewarded. He then for the succeeding three years of his life received \$15 per year, and afterwards his wages were increased to \$25 per year. While receiving that munificent salary, he was foreman of a large farm, superintending some fifty men.

Wishing to better his financial condition, Mr. Peterson sailed for the New World in 1865. He had been married in Sweden to Miss Matilda Johnson, and with his wife crossed the broad Atlantic, coming at once to Muskegon County. He made a settlement in Laketon Township, where he began cutting cordwood, and for three years was employed at various labors, whereby he might secure an honest livelihood and thus provide for himself and family. At length he was able to purchase thirty-five acres of wild land and begin farming in his own interest. With characteristic energy he began its improvement, and as acre after acre was placed under the plow, the fertile fields began to yield him a good income. The boundaries of his farm were also extended, until it now comprises one hundred and eighty-five acres of valuable land, seventy-five of which are under cultivation.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born

eight children: Ellen, now the wife of Adolph Bard; Ida, who graduated from the Muskegon schools, then engaged in teaching, and is now the wife of Charles Johnson; Elmer; Hannah; Abel, who died in childhood; Mamie, David and Nancy. The parents hold membership with the Lutheran Church. Mr. Peterson takes a warm interest in everything tending to promote morality and advance the general welfare. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and he votes with the Prohibition party. He may truly be called a self-made man, and the praise which that term conveys is justly deserved, for through his own unaided efforts he has worked his way upward to success.



**W**ILLIAM JEREMIAH BROTT. The business interests of Muskegon County are worthily represented by the gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch, and who is prominently identified with the history of the village of Moorland. An efficient, capable and energetic young business man, he has worked his way to a foremost place in the commercial circles of the county, and is now numbered among the successful millers and lumbermen of this section of the State. While his abilities have been mainly devoted to his individual enterprises, he has also contributed largely to the development of the resources of Moorland, and has aided in no small degree in securing its present prosperity.

Born in Polkton Township, Ottawa County, Mich., on the 13th of June, 1855, our subject is the son of Anthony and Celestia (Schoville) Brott, natives of New York. His father, who was a mechanic by occupation, was a man possessing sterling qualities of mind and heart, and occupied a high place in the regard of his fellow-citizens. Fired with the spirit of patriotic devotion at the opening of the Civil War he gave not only his sympathy to the cause of the Union, but his services as well. Enlisting in the Union army, he

served bravely and nobly, participating in a number of decisive engagements and finally giving his life to his country's cause. He was captured by the enemy and placed in Andersonville Prison, where he died from starvation in 1864.

Of nine children, the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth. He passed his childhood years uneventfully, and was a lad of seventeen when his father's death occurred, thus throwing him entirely upon his own resources. Bravely and courageously he commenced the battle of life, and, undaunted by obstacles and hardships, persevered until success crowned his exertions. When ready to establish a home of his own, he was married, at the age of twenty, to Miss Martha F., daughter of John L. and Elizabeth (Bowers) Thompson, natives of Pennsylvania.

Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Brott located on a farm in Ravenna Township, Muskegon County, where he continued to till the soil until 1891. He then removed to Moorland Station, in Moorland Township, where, in company with his cousin, Charles A. Brott, he has since engaged extensively in the lumber and milling business. His peculiar talents especially adapt him for a successful business career, and he has already attained a large degree of success in his chosen occupation. Socially, he is identified with the Knights of the Maccabees. In politics, he is in hearty sympathy with the principles of the People's party, and gives his influence to the success of that organization. He and his wife have only one child, Alice Edith, a popular and talented young lady, who is receiving an excellent education in the Moorland schools.



**J**ERRY DEVRIES, a prosperous general agriculturist of Ottawa County, conducts a finely cultivated farm on section 36, Holland Township, and is likewise a skillful veterinary surgeon and authority on the diseases of the horse. A native of the Netherlands, he was born in 1843. He is the son of Bernard and

Alice (Mulder) DeVries, and the descendant of a long line of highly respected and sturdy forefathers, who through persistent effort won their way upward to positions of influence. The paternal grandparents, John and Helen DeVries, were in humble circumstances, the former supporting the family by daily labor upon a farm. He reared a family of two children, Bernard, the father of Jerry, and Ann, who passed her entire life in her native land. The father, who was born in 1805, in the near vicinity of the birthplace of our subject, received a fair education in the free schools of the Netherlands and remained with his parents, assisting his father, until he had attained to manhood.

At the age of twenty-five years, Bernard DeVries was married in the Netherlands to Miss Alice, the daughter of Jerry and Gertie Mulder. He had a small piece of land, comprising about thirty acres, and upon this farm he and his excellent wife settled and toiled industriously. Eight children blessed the home, all born in the Netherlands, but five of them died in early infancy and childhood. The three living sons are John, Jerry and Paul. In 1847 the father with his family emigrated to the United States and journeyed to Michigan, settling in Ottawa County. He had exhausted his savings on the journey, and at once after his arrival went to work in the woods making staves and logs. He soon purchased forty acres of timber-land near the present home of our subject, on section 25, Holland Township. This land he cleared, cultivated and improved with the help of his sons. He and his wife are living near the city of Holland. They are valued members of the Dutch Reformed Church, and possess the high regard of a wide circle of friends. Politically, he is a Republican and, a man of broad intelligence, is deeply interested in the vital questions of the day and is a close observer of local and National government.

The youthful days of our subject were passed in the parental home. At the age of twenty-three he married Alice, daughter of Bernard and Dena Snitzler. The pleasant home of our subject and his estimable wife was brightened by the birth of ten children, four of whom are now deceased.

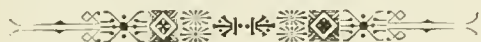


Alice was married to Garrit Ratering, and died October 14, 1889, leaving a daughter, Fannie Harriet. The survivors are Gertie, Bertha, Jennie, Julia, Berney and Dena. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. De Vries they continued for three years to reside with the father of our subject, who at the expiration of that time gave them forty acres of land, which Mr. De Vries sold and soon afterward emigrated to Kansas. A few months in the far West satisfied him that Michigan suited him best, and returning to the Wolverine State he purchased fifty-one acres where he now resides. He gives the most of his time and attention to veterinary work, making a close study of that profession. In both political and religious affiliations, like his father, our subject is a staunch Republican and a valued member of the Reformed Church of Zeeland. He commands the high regard of a large acquaintance in Ottawa County.

important hamlet to a thriving village, his business increased, and as he was industrious and persevering, he became well-to-do. In 1881 he retired from the trade at which he had so long labored, and, purchasing a farm in Ravenna Township, embarked in agricultural pursuits, at which he is still engaged.

Four children were born to Coker and Sarah Young, one of whom is deceased. The surviving members of the family are: William, the eldest; Mary, the wife of Henry E. Scott, a resident of the State of Washington; and George C., who makes his home in Ravenna Township. William was born in Jackson, Mich., January 7, 1855, receiving his education in the schools of Muskegon County. He aided his father in farming, and upon starting out in active life for himself, embarked in agricultural pursuits, which he followed until he was thirty-four years of age. He then removed to Ravenna and entered into the grocery business which he still conducts. He carries a large stock and has a liberal share of the patronage of the community.

On Christmas Day, 1877, Mr. Young was united in marriage with Miss Nellie E., daughter of Ephraim D. and Phoebe (Holister) Husted. They are the parents of one child, Eva E. Mrs. Young is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which our subject contributes liberally, though not identified with any religious organization. Socially, he is a member of Ravenna Lodge No. 355, I. O. O. F., and has served as Secretary of the lodge. In politics he is a pronounced Republican and has always cast his ballot for the principles upheld by that party.



**W**ILLIAM YOUNG. Among the business establishments of Ravenna, prominent mention should be made of the grocery store owned and managed by the subject of this notice. Here may be found a choice and complete assortment of staple and fancy groceries, glassware, chinaware, and the various kinds of fruits and vegetables in their season. Through good management and energy the genial proprietor has worked his way to a prominent position among the successful business men of the place, and the uniform reliability of his transactions has gained for him the confidence of his customers.

The parents of our subject, Coker and Sarah (Butcher) Young, were born in England, whence they emigrated to America, and, proceeding to Michigan, settled in the city of Jackson. Mr. Young, Sr., is a shoemaker by trade and followed that occupation for a number of years. About 1866 he removed from Jackson to Ravenna, where he embarked in business as a shoemaker. As the years passed by and the place grew from an un-



**S**WEN SWENSON, who resides on section 35, Holton Township, is one of the highly respected farmers of Muskegon County, and is a valued citizen of the community, for he is always found in the front ranks of every enterprise that is calculated to promote the general welfare or advance the public good.

Our subject is a native of Norway, born in 1824. His father, Swen Swenson, died when our subject was a lad of only four years. He was a farmer by occupation. The gentleman whose name heads this record is the second in order of birth in a family of three children. At the age of eleven years he began to earn his own livelihood, and since that time has been dependent entirely upon his own exertions, so that whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. He began working as a farm hand for his board and clothes, and when about fifteen years of age he received in addition a few dollars each year. He followed farming in his native land until about thirty years of age, when, with the desire of bettering his financial condition, he resolved to emigrate to America. Bidding good-bye to home and friends, he left his native land, and in June, 1855, crossed the briny deep. He first went to Buffalo, N. Y., and in July, 1855, took up his residence in Milwaukee, Wis.

During his residence in Milwaukee, in 1855, Mr. Swenson was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Olson, daughter of Christian and Bertha M. Olson, who were early settlers of this county. Twelve children have been born of their union. Mary, deceased, was the wife of Ole Hanson; Hans is also deceased; and several died in childhood. Those still living are Sebert, Christian, William O., Sirena, Carl N., Nettie and Delia B.

Mr. Swenson continued his residence in Milwaukee until 1878, and engaged in sailing on the Lakes and working in the shipyards for many years. In this way he acquired some capital with which to begin business for himself.

On coming to Muskegon County, he purchased the farm belonging to his father-in-law, and now owns one hundred and sixty acres of arable and valuable land. When it came into his possession, it was but slightly improved, but he has built fences upon it, thus dividing it into fields of convenient size, and has erected all the necessary buildings, which therefore stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. He has cleared the place of its timber, and where once were tall trees or brush, waving fields of grain may now be seen. This farm is one of the desirable places of the

neighborhood. Mr. Swenson has been a great worker throughout his life, and the industry and enterprise which are numbered among his chief characteristics have been the important factors in his success. He may truly be called a self-made man. In religious belief he is a Lutheran, and in politics he is a supporter of Republican men and measures.



**A**NTON BASSIE, an enterprising farmer of Laketon Township, Muskegon County, was born in Prussia, Germany, January 22, 1821. He is the eldest of five sons born to Anton and Mary (Randall) Bassie, natives of Prussia, who spent their entire lives in the land of their birth. In the excellent German schools the subject of this sketch acquired a fair education, and under the careful supervision of his parents he was trained to habits of usefulness and industry. He passed the early years of his life in the Fatherland, whence in 1855 he emigrated to America, and after landing in this country proceeded directly to Wisconsin.

At Milwaukee Mr. Bassie worked at anything he could find to do. On the 22d of September, 1857, he came to Muskegon, and for two and one-half years worked in the sawmill of George Ruddiman. During the winter of 1859 he was employed on the Mississippi River levee in Mississippi. Returning to Muskegon, he entered the employ of Ryerson & Hill, and was engaged in their sawmill for a period of thirty-two years, during the last twelve of which he was second engineer, and prior to that time was foreman. He is justly proud of the fact that, with one exception, he was in the employ of Ryerson & Hill for a longer period than any of their employes. He had the confidence of the firm to an unusual extent, and labored untiringly for their welfare.

After so many years of close confinement to his work, Mr. Bassie felt the need of a change, and

accordingly in 1880 he purchased his present farm, upon which he located in 1881. He superintends the management of the sixty acres comprising the farm, and finds a delightful home for his declining years in this quiet rural abode. During his long residence in Muskegon County, he has been an interested witness of many changes and improvements, and has himself been an important factor in developing the best interests of this section of the State. At the time of his arrival in Muskegon, this now prosperous city was a tiny hamlet, containing about twelve houses, while the surrounding country, instead of being dotted with fine farms, was heavily timbered with pine and other woods. He had no money at the time he sought a home in this country, but his courage was dauntless and his energy untiring, and the result is that he has attained to a position of prominence in the county.

May 9, 1867, Mr. Bassie was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (Nichols) Barrs, the widow of John Barrs. Mrs. Bassie was born in Holstein, Germany, and there became the wife of Mr. Barrs, to whom she bore three children: Daniel, a resident of Muskegon; John, and Henry (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Bassie became the parents of three children, namely: Lena, who is the wife of John Tedamann, and resides with our subject; Anna (deceased), and Joseph, who is at home. Although not active in local political affairs, Mr. Bassie nevertheless takes an intelligent interest in matters of importance to the general welfare of the people, and casts his ballot for the support of Democratic principles.



**H**IRAM E. PARKER. To their noble, pushing, hardworking business men is due the great prosperity, wealth and advancement of the northern tier of States in commercial importance. To their zeal, energy and integrity will their future greatness be indebted, as it has been in the past, and among the names promi-

nent in the promotion of solid trade in Muskegon none will stand higher, or occupy the position more justly than does the subject of this sketch. He is now retired from the active duties of life, satisfied that he has contributed his share toward the prosperity and progress of Muskegon County. He was born in Warren County, N. Y., April 18, 1821, and is the son of James Parker and the grandson of James Parker, Sr., who was of English descent.

James Parker, Jr., father of our subject, was a native Vermonter and a miller by occupation. When a young man he went to the State of New York, and there met and married Miss Susan Ellis, a native of the Empire State, born in Washington County, and the daughter of Ezekiel Ellis, a Revolutionary soldier, who suffered untold hardships while in winter quarters at Valley Forge. The latter was of Irish descent. To Mr. and Mrs. Parker were born eight children, four of each sex, and in New York State their last days were spent. Hiram E. Parker, the eldest of these children, was eight years of age when he moved with his parents to Essex County, N. Y., and he attended the common schools of his district. Until sixteen years of age he assisted his father in the mill, and from that time up to the age of twenty-one he was engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Upon attaining his majority he left home and went to Glens Falls, Warren County, N. Y., where he obtained employment in a sawmill. There he remained for a number of years, and while there married Miss Matilda Jackson, a native of Glens Falls, and the daughter of Jonathan and Margaret Jackson. Following his marriage young Parker moved to a farm and tilled the soil up to 1866, when he removed to Muskegon County, and settled in Muskegon. He entered the employ of the firm of Mason & Davis, and continued with them for seven years, after which he became Superintendent of the firm of Mann & Moon, manufacturers of lumber. He continued with this firm up to 1890, when he retired from the mill business, and for the past two years has been janitor of the Lakeside school buildings.

In politics, Mr. Parker is a Republican. He has served as Town Collector, was a member of the School Board for three years in the village of

Lakeside and has held other positions. He is a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F., and Davis Encampment No. 47. For many years he has held membership in the Methodist Church, and has been Trustee of the same for some time. Mrs. Parker, who was also a worthy member of that church, died in 1859, leaving one son, Byron J. Mr. Parker's second marriage was with Miss Mary C., daughter of David and Flora Hevland. Mrs. Parker died leaving one daughter, Lelia C., who is now at home. He married his present wife, formerly Miss Lydia Decker, a native of St. Joseph County, Mich., in 1873, and they have a pleasant home in the city.



**G**UST BEGEMAN. It matters little what vocation a man selects as his life occupation so long as it is an honorable one. If he is an honest, upright man, courteous in his intercourse with his fellow-men, and possessed of the average amount of energy and perseverance, he is bound to make his occupation a financial success. Because the subject of this sketch is possessed of all the above requirements is the chief reason he has succeeded; because he is above the average in point of business qualifications is the reason that he to-day stands among the prominent men of the county. He is at present the most efficient Supervisor of Blendon Township and discharges the duties of that position in a very satisfactory manner. He was born in the city of Berlin, Germany, May 8, 1862, and is the only child of Conrad and Minnie (Coleman) Begeman, natives of Germany.

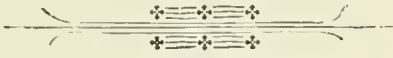
The father came to America in 1862, while the war cloud hung darkly over the Nation, and settled in the village of Allegan, Allegan County, Mich., where he was engaged in brick-making until his death, in 1873. He was twice married, and was the father of three children by his first union: Fred, Sophia and Minnie, all now married and living in Germany. The mother of our subject had also been twice married, first to a Mr. Cole-

man, by whom she had four children: Augusta, who married Joseph Sickinger, and resides in New York City; Ernest, who resides in Germany; William, who died in Allegan in 1892, and whose family now resides in that town; and Minnie, who resides in New York City. The parents of these children were upright, enterprising citizens and won many friends wherever they made their home.

The subject of this sketch was but one year of age when his mother died, and before he had reached his twelfth year he was left fatherless. He really commenced life for himself at the early age of seven years and worked first at one thing then another, attending the country school as opportunity offered. Until eighteen years of age he worked on a farm and then learned the trade of marble-cutter, which he followed for six years. In 1884 he moved to his present location, Bauer, and established a general store, which he conducted until 1893, when he sold his stock of dry goods and groceries to M. W. Otto. He was first elected Township Treasurer in 1888, re-elected in 1889, and in 1890 was made Supervisor, to which position he has been re-elected each succeeding year.

In the year 1886 Miss Maggie Bauer, a native of Trier, Germany, born January 2, 1864, became his wife. She is the daughter of Nicholas and Barbara (Tibald) Bauer, also natives of the Old Country. Mr. and Mrs. Bauer came to America about 1869 or 1870 and settled first in Grand Rapids. Being a wagon-maker by trade, he established a wagon-manufacturing shop there and was engaged in a successful business for some time. He then sold his city property and moved to Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, Mich. The postoffice of Bauer, established on the line between Blendon Township and Georgetown Township, was named in his honor. He resided there and made wagons for many years. On the 1st of July, 1891, he sold his interest in this place and now resides on a small farm in Georgetown Township. He and his wife are the parents of three children, as follows: Maggie, the wife of our subject; John and Kate. To Mr. and Mrs. Begeman have been born two children: Bernie B., born October 6, 1888; and Albert W., born September

29, 1890. Mr. Begeman was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but does not affiliate with the lodge at present. He was a member of Home Lodge No. 290, I. O. O. F., of the town of Allegan. Politically, he has always been a strong Democrat.



**I**SAAC J. QUICK. Among the worthy residents of Ottawa County, Mich., it is but just to say that Mr. Quick occupies a conspicuous and honorable place, for he has always been honest, industrious and enterprising, and as a result has met with more than ordinary success. He is now engaged in merchandising in Allendale, is the efficient Postmaster of that place, and the credit of a considerable share of the enterprise which helps to make Allendale a thriving business point is due to this gentleman. He was born in Canada July 11, 1850, and is the eldest of four children born to Joseph and Elizabeth (Welch) Quick, natives of England. The parents went to Canada in 1831, and moved from that country to this in 1851. While residing in Canada Mr. Quick was engaged in farming, and when first coming to the United States he located in Detroit, Mich., where he remained for one year.

From there he moved to Kalamazoo and was engaged in teaming in that city, running the second dray ever put to work in that place. Kalamazoo, Mich., was at that time a small village of not more than one thousand inhabitants, and at the time of the election of President Buchanan the city had but five or six brick stores. In that city Mr. Quick passed his last days, his death occurring in 1861. Although he came to America a very poor man, with a wife and one child, he accumulated considerable property by his industry and good management, and passed his last days in peace and plenty. The three children following our subject are as follows: Hattie, wife of John Wolbrink, of Allendale Township; Jennie, wife of

George Goble, of Grand Rapids; and Eliza, wife of Joseph Copernall, of Kalamazoo. The mother of these children died in 1875. She was a member of the Church of England.

Isaac J. Quick received a common education in the schools of Kalamazoo, but did not attend after reaching his eleventh year. After the death of the father, the responsibility of taking care of himself fell upon his shoulders, and his mother found a pleasant and comfortable home with him until her death. He saw that his sisters were educated, and even at that early age showed excellent judgment and business acumen. When eleven years of age he commenced working in a butcher shop, but only continued there for one year, when he was taken with white swelling in his leg, and, being lame, could not do butcher's work. He then learned the barber's trade, and for seven years worked at this. Finding that he had to be on his feet too much while following this trade, he began learning book-keeping. At the age of nineteen years he had his leg amputated above the knee, and as soon afterward as he was able he was employed by the Kalamazoo Brewing Company as book-keeper, a position he filled for five years with credit to himself and the satisfaction of his employers.

On the 6th of December, 1875, he came to Allendale, and at once engaged in merchandising in a small way, his capital being only \$15 in ready cash. He continued to do business here, and a few years later received some money from the estate, by which he was enabled to enlarge his business. His cash sales for 1892 were \$13,000. Since coming to Allendale he has made enough money to erect a handsome residence, also a good store building, etc. In 1893, in company with a number of men, he erected the largest creamery in the county, of which Mr. Quick is the Secretary. The capital stock is \$5,000. In 1876 he was appointed Postmaster, and this position he still fills. In the same year he was elected Township Clerk, and has been re-elected every year since with the exception of one. He has been Notary Public for sixteen years, and was one of the promoters of the gravel road from this place to Grand Rapids, of which he is one of the stockholders.

Mr. Quick was first married November 23, 1876, to Miss Mary Slater, a native of New York. She died in 1878, leaving no children. In 1881 Mr. Quick was married to Miss Lucinda Pixley, a native of Allendale, and a daughter of Ebenezer and Ann (White) Pixley, natives of America and England, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Quick are the parents of two children, Ebenezer and Irving. Both Mr. and Mrs. Quick hold membership in the Congregational Church, of which the former is Trustee, and both are active workers in the same. Mr. Quick is a member of Coopersville Lodge No. 376, I. O. O. F., and Sir Knight in Allendale Tent No. 818. Politically, he is a leading Republican.



**W**ILLIAM H. KRUPP. Among the enterprising farmers of Fruitland Township, Muskegon County, is this worthy man, who lives on section 1. His birth occurred in Detroit, Mich., in 1862. He is the son of James W. and Mary (Dyest) Krupp. The former was a son of William Krupp, and was a native of Dusseldorf, Germany, and was for many years a soldier in the German army. He took part in the War of 1812, fighting against Napoleon's troops.

James W. Krupp was one of six children, 1832 being the year of his birth. He was brought up in his native village, remaining by the old hearthstone until attaining his majority. He received superior advantages as to education, and was master of three languages, speaking English, French and German with equal fluency. He early learned the gardener's trade, and crossed the Atlantic and afterwards settled in Detroit, where he followed gardening for many years. In 1863 he removed to Shiawassee County, becoming the owner of eighty acres of property in Venice Township. On this farm he resided until 1881, and the following year was killed in a runaway accident. He was married in Detroit to the daughter of John

Dyest, who was also born in the Fatherland. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Krupp: Lizzie, Sarah, William, Anna, Fred and Mamie. The father was a member of the Catholic Church in Germany, but left the faith after his removal to this country. He was a member of the Grange and, politically, was a Democrat.

The education of William Krupp was obtained in the common schools, and he made his home with his parents until he was married, at the age of twenty-seven years, to Miss Minnie, daughter of Burdette McMichael. They have one daughter, Nellie by name. After the death of our subject's father, he took charge of the farm, comprising one hundred and twenty-four acres, and has since ably managed the estate. Mr. Krupp is a distant relative of the noted German foundryman who manufactured the fine guns in the Krupp Pavilion, at the World's Fair, in Chicago. The immense castings and cannon to be seen there are among the wonders of the wonderful exposition. In politics Mr. Krupp is a worker in the ranks of the Democracy. He is possessed of those qualities of push and perseverance which claim recognition and praise from all. In his business relations he is strictly honorable, and his word is considered as good as his bond.



**T**HOMAS MILLER, deceased, a business man of unusual executive ability and enterprise, for nearly a score of years closely identified with the progressive interests of Muskegon, Mich., entered into rest in the spring of 1885, mourned by friends and fellow-citizens as a public loss. Mr. Miller was born in Pentshire, Scotland, in 1840, and was a descendant of a long line of upright and industrious Scottish ancestors. His father, Thomas Miller, born, reared and married near the Highlands of his native land, spent his entire life of usefulness amid the familiar scenes of his youth. His mother, Jennie (Malcolm) Miller, was likewise a dweller within old Scotia.

Our subject passed the days of boyhood in his birthplace, attending the common school of his home neighborhood, and as he self-reliantly attained to manhood, prepared himself for the battle of life by learning the trade of a millwright. Having reached his majority, he resolved to try his fortunes in the land of liberty beyond the Atlantic, and, embarking from the nearest seaport, emigrated to America, landing in Quebec. He did not tarry long there, but proceeded directly to the city of Buffalo, N. Y., where he received almost immediate employment at his trade, and worked for three years in that place. At the expiration of that time, in 1866, he journeyed to Muskegon, and was here employed for two years by Alexander Rodgers. In 1868 he established the Miller & Co. Iron Works, with Hollock & Everett, but later owned the entire interest of the prosperous plant, Hollock & Everett having sold out. George Galbraith, brother of Mrs. Miller, then bought a third interest, and under the firm name of Miller & Co. an immense and profitable business, extending over a large area, was most prosperously conducted until the death of the senior partner, our subject, in 1885.

January 23, 1863, were united in marriage in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., Thomas Miller and Miss Anna Galbraith, the latter a native of Scotland and daughter of James H. and Annie (McDonald) Galbraith, born, educated and married in old Scotia. The father, a prominent manufacturer and a man of fine attainments, emigrated to America in 1850, and with his family located permanently in Canada, where the estimable widow of our subject was educated. Of the children who blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller, four are now surviving. Birdie is the wife of Robert L. Root, of Muskegon; Jennie M. is the wife of Frank L. Orcutt, of Minneapolis, Minn.; Biegh is a promising student in the High School of Muskegon; and Toat is also pursuing advanced studies in the Muskegon High School.

Faternally, our subject was a valued member of Muskegon Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F., and as a man and citizen, public-spirited and enterprising, possessed the high regard of all who knew him, and to his children bequeathed the memory of a

successful business career, distinguished by earnest purpose, manly self-reliance and sterling integrity of character. Mrs. Miller, occupying a position of useful influence, and an active worker in social and benevolent enterprises, enjoys the confidence and esteem of many friends. Sustained in the hour of her affliction by the sympathy of a wide acquaintance, she arose to the needs of the occasion and has proven herself a woman of rare ability and intelligence. The handsome family residence of Mrs. Miller is located on the corner of First Street and Miller Avenue, Muskegon.



**W**YBE NIENHUIS, the senior member of the well-known firm of Nienhuis Bros., the individual members of which are Wybe and Abel J. Nienhuis, is one of the prominent business men of the town of New Holland, Ottawa County, Mich., and one of the most successful merchants. He is a native of this county, and the son of John and Magdaiene (Dykema) Nienhuis, both natives of the Netherlands. John Nienhuis came to America in 1856, and came immediately to Michigan, settling in Ottawa County when the country was still a wilderness. He brought his family with him, and they suffered all the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life. There were no public roads at that time, and Mr. Nienhuis would take his grist to mill on his back. Of course his farm was unimproved, almost a wilderness, and he went actively to work to clear and make a home. This was hard work, but he persevered and was beginning to see his way through, when his death occurred. This was in 1862. Mrs. Nienhuis afterward married Henry Van Arendonk, another of the early settlers, and she is still living, being one of the oldest pioneers of the county. By her first husband she became the mother of four children: Eildert, of this county; Jane, wife of Johanus Hasevoort; Wybe and Abel J. Her second union resulted in the birth of three daugh-

ters: Cornelia, the wife of John Posthumus, of Grand Rapids; Henrietta; and Gertie, the wife of Henry Troost.

Wybe Nienhuis secured a fair education in the common schools of the county, and when twenty-two years of age began working on a farm for wages. Later he began farming on his own and on rented land, but when twenty-three years of age had an opportunity to clerk in a store, and this continued until he was twenty-nine years of age. He then embarked in his present business, general merchandising, and justly merits the large measure of success achieved by his good judgment and excellent acumen. This was in 1886, and he commenced with a small cash capital, but his average sales amount to from \$12,000 to \$15,000 annually at the present time. He and his brother are wide-awake and thoroughgoing, and keep on hand a choice selection of goods. They employ one clerk, who thoroughly understands his business and is ever attentive and pleasant to the numerous patrons. Besides this store, the brothers are the owners of forty acres of land, which they have under a fine state of cultivation. The store building is 24x60 feet, two stories high, with a dwelling overhead, and Mr. Nienhuis also owns a fine two-story residence, one of the handsomest in the county.

He was married in 1880 to Miss Bertha C. Smith, a native of this county, and a daughter of Conrad and Grietje (Sterken) Smith. She was the eldest of three children, the others being Lena and Conrad, the former the wife of Garrett Stigenga. To Mr. and Mrs. Nienhuis were born five children: John, Conrad, Lena, Henry and George. Mr. Nienhuis is one of the promising young men of the county, and in every walk of life has conducted himself in an honorable and upright manner. For four years he filled the office of Township Clerk, and in the spring of 1893 he was elected Township Trustee. He is alive to matters of public importance, and deeply interested in the success of the Democratic party, with which he has ever been identified.

Abel J. Nienhuis, junior member of the firm, and a young man of more than ordinary business ability, was educated in the common schools of

Ottawa County, and when twenty-six years of age engaged in the present business. The brothers are equally interested in the business, and display excellent judgment in its management. In the year 1887, he was married to Miss Jennie W. Rooks, a native of this county, and the daughter of Albert and Joannah Rooks, natives of Holland. Mr. and Mrs. Rooks came to America at an early day, and here reared their seven children: Garrett; William; Anna, wife of Bert Knooihuizen; Jennie W., John, Cornelius and Lena, at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Rooks were members of the North Holland Dutch Reformed Church. Mr. Rooks died in 1873, and Mrs. Rooks afterward married Rheinder Bultema, by whom she had one child, Herman. Two children were born to Abel J. Nienhuis and wife, Maggie and Albert. Mr. and Mrs. Nienhuis hold membership in the North Holland Dutch Reformed Church, and he served as School Inspector in 1883, being re-elected to that office in 1893. Politically, he is a strong advocate of the platform of the Democratic party.



**B**D. KING, M. D., the popular homeopathic physician and surgeon, residing at No. 122 South Terrace Street, Muskegon, Mich., enjoys a large field of practice and is widely known throughout the city, where since his location in the year 1884 he has met with most encouraging success. Our subject is a native of Oswego County, N. Y., and was born June 22, 1850. His father, Lorenzo Dow King, was born in Rhode Island and was the son of David King, a man of high character and personal courage, the paternal grandfather having been one of the brave soldiers of the War of 1812. The remote ancestors of the Kings were of English birth, but the family early settling in the United States have here long occupied positions of useful influence. The mother, Jane (Palmer) King, was of New England birth and, a native of Vermont, was the daughter of Bliss Palmer, also born in the Green

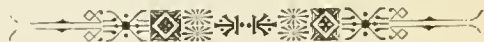


Mountain State. The Palmeters, who were of Scotch-Irish extraction, settled in America before the French War and are numbered among the most loyal citizens of our country. Dr. King spent the days of boyhood in Oswego County, N. Y., and prepared for college in the public schools.

At seventeen years of age, setting out to seek his fortune in the West, our subject came alone to Manistee, Mich. Having determined to adopt the medical profession, he later read with Dr. W. W. Wilson, of Alpena, Mich., and in 1880 entered Hahnemann College, of Chicago, and after a complete course of lectures graduated from that well-known institution in 1883. In July, 1884, our subject opened an office in Muskegon and engaged in the general practice of medicine and surgery with excellent immediate success, and has continued in the active duties of his profession uninterruptedly ever since. In the fall of 1886 were united in marriage B. D. King, M. D., and Miss Elizabeth S. Baker, of Muskegon, our subject and his estimable wife receiving the congratulations of many friends. The Doctor is politically a stalwart Republican and was in 1888 appointed City Physician, for a twelvemonth ably discharging the duties involved in the office. A man of enterprise, our subject is identified with the rapid progress of his home locality, and is ever ready with word and deed to aid in the promotion of all matters of public welfare. Financially prospered, he is directly interested in the Muskegon Valley Loan Association, of which he is a Director.

Fraternally identified with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, Dr. King has a host of friends among the order and is a member of Commandery No. 22, of Muskegon. He also belongs to De Witt Clinton Consistory of the Valley of Grand Rapids and likewise affiliates with Saiadin Temple, of the Mystic Shrine, of Grand Rapids, and is a thirty-second degree Mason. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees and is Medical Director of the Local Council of the National Union, the headquarters being located in Ohio. Our subject is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and popular among the fraternity. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Mus-

kegon, and, a citizen of fine business attainments, avails himself of all the facilities of the day for keeping fully abreast of the times socially and professionally and is welcomed to the homes of many of the leading people of the city where he has for eight years past steadily won his upward way.



**W**ILLIAM BENJAMINSE. When the books are balanced, when all accounts are finally adjusted, figuratively speaking, there will be a larger credit balance opposite the name of the gentleman who is the subject of this sketch than is usually placed to the credit of the average of mankind. He is a native of the Netherlands, born March 4, 1831, and is possessed of all those qualities of industry and energy so characteristic of those of that nativity. He is now residing in Holland, Mich., and the good moral tone of the town is due in a great measure to the influence of Mr. Benjaminse, who is the publisher of *De Hollander*. The editorials in this paper command an ever-widening area of circulation, while they carry with them that weight and authority which a clear, calm and intelligent judgment must always secure.

When a boy, in 1844, our subject was brought by his parents to America, and for four and a-half years was a resident of the city of New York. From there the parents removed to Grand Rapids. In that city William Benjaminse grew to mature years, received his education, and later began learning the printer's trade in the office of the Grand Rapids *Enquirer*. For four years he was an apprentice in that office, and afterward a journeyman. About the year 1860, he came to Holland, Mich., and worked at the printer's trade until the year 1868, when he assumed the editorship of *De Hollander*, now the oldest Dutch paper in the United States. He has improved it in every way, and it is now one of the brightest, newsiest papers in this part of the State. *De Hollander* is published in the interest of the

general public, and its excellent moral tone has had a most refining influence on all who are fortunate enough to obtain a copy.

Mr. Benjaminse has been engaged in the newspaper business in Holland for thirty-three years, and is thoroughly familiar with its every detail. In the year 1855, he was married to Miss Johanna Van de Luyster, daughter of J. Van de Luyster, who, with the Rev. Mr. Vander Meulen, was the colonizer of Zeeland in 1847. Eleven children were born to the union of our subject and his wife, of whom five are still living. Politically, Mr. Benjaminse is a Democrat, and the paper, *De Hollander*, is devoted to the interests of that party. He is public-spirited and enterprising, and has served on the Board of Education. A member of the Holland Christian Reformed Church, Mr. Benjaminse takes much interest in religious affairs.



**A**LFRED PURCHASE is a merchant of South Blendon and the efficient servant of Uncle Sam in the post-office of that place.

He is well known throughout Ottawa County, and as a successful, enterprising business man has few equals. Like many of the representative citizens of the county, he was born in this State, his birth occurring in Hillsdale County September 28, 1852, and like many of them he is deeply interested in the progress and development of his native State. He is third in order of birth in a family born to the union of James and Elizabeth (Hunkford) Purchase, natives of the Empire State.

James Purchase came to Michigan in the old Territorial days, and it is a source of inspiration to brave doing and endurance to learn the history of those who through hardships and privations won a place for themselves in this northern tier of States. He was married in Michigan to Miss Hunkford, who came here as early as himself, and they settled in Hillsdale County, which was then nothing but a wilderness. Adrian, sixteen miles off, was the nearest trading-post, and there were

no roads, only Indian trails. Indians were numerous and the woods abounded with game. The Purchase family entered land from the Government and engaged in farming as soon as the land was in proper condition. When James Purchase first came to the Territory of Michigan with his parents he was but a lad, and his opportunities for getting an education were poor indeed. Being naturally of a studious turn of mind, he improved every moment of spare time and eventually became one of the best-informed farmers of the county. Previous to coming to Michigan, and just after leaving New York State, the grandfather of Mr. Purchase resided for a short time in the Buckeye State. Farming was his principal occupation in life, but for twenty-five years he ran a threshing machine in the county, the first "groundhog" thresher.

In 1872 Mr. Purchase sold his farm and moved to Ottawa County, settling in Georgetown Township, where he tilled the soil until 1890. He then rented his farm for two years and removed to Grand Rapids. Later he sold the farm and is now living a retired life. He is now in his seventy-eighth year, and his wife in her sixty-eighth year. Both have been exemplary and worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for years. Seven children were born to their union: Jane, now Mrs. George Gettings, of Stanton, Mich.; Frank, a resident of Hillsdale County; Alfred, our subject; Sarah, now Mrs. Duncan Van Allen, of this county; Joel, of this county; James L., of Grand Rapids; and Willard, also of Grand Rapids. The parents of these children are only two of the many who have spent the greater portion of their lives in developing the country that their children and grandchildren might enjoy the advantages which they themselves were denied. In truth, we of to-day are the "heirs of all the ages" and profit by the labor and self-denial of the hard-working classes of the past.

Alfred Purchase received a limited education in the district schools of his neighborhood and when twenty years of age branched out to fight his own way in life. In the county where his father had first settled he rented land for twelve years. Aside from this he was also engaged in railroad con-

struction and various other occupations, and on two separate occasions lost his entire earnings. In 1885 he opened his present mercantile business with a capital of \$275 and now carries a stock of goods valued at \$3,000. His business increased rapidly from sales amounting to \$1,000 in 1885 to \$10,000 in 1892. His stock consists of general merchandise, and he is dealing slightly in agricultural implements.

In June, 1873, Mr. Purchase married Miss Alma Lick, a native of Canada and a daughter of Adam and Sarah (Fox) Lick, natives respectively of Canada and England. Mr. Lick came to Michigan in 1869, settled in Olive Township, Ottawa County, and in connection with farming was engaged in the butcher's trade. At present he resides at Ottawa Station and is engaged in merchandising and farming. He has been twice married but had no children by his first union. Ten children were born to his second union, seven of whom are living and named as follows: Alma; Adelaide, wife of Ferd Pixley, of Olive Township; David, of South Dakota; Mary; Daniel, of South Omaha; Fred, of Grand Haven; and Ray, of Olive Township. Mrs. Lick was also twice married, and by her first husband, a Mr. Darrell, she had one son, Alfred, who is deceased. Mr. Lick is now Postmaster at Ottawa Station. To Mr. and Mrs. Purchase have been born two children, Edith L. and Etta. Our subject has been one of the successful business men of the county since commencing his mercantile life and is esteemed by all. He is giving his daughters good educational advantages.



**M**AJ. CHARLES E. STORRS, proprietor of Storrs' Vineyard, and a prominent citizen of North Muskegon, was born in West Moriah Township, Essex County, N. Y., on the 3d of September, 1833. He is an honored representative of a patriotic family that has

furnished many valiant soldiers to our country in time of need. His father, Elijah Storrs, a native of Middletown, Conn., served with courage and efficiency during the War of 1812, and from the rank of Ensign was promoted to Captain as a reward for meritorious conduct at the battle of Plattsburg. In 1834 he removed as far West as Summit County, Ohio, where he located on a farm in Northfield Township. Thence, in 1864, he came to Michigan and settled in Grand Haven, where he died at the age of eighty-four.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Joseph Storrs, was a native of Connecticut and served in the Colonial army during the Revolutionary War. He was of Welsh descent. The mother of our subject was Julia Holcomb, and her father served with the famous Green Mountain boys during the War of the Revolution. She was born and reared in Vermont, and after a happy wedded life of fifty-nine years passed to her final rest at the age of four-score and two years. The Holcomb family originated in England.

Elijah Storrs and his good wife were the parents of ten children, seven of whom attained mature years, namely: Clark N., a resident of North Muskegon; Wales F., deceased; Harriet W., the wife of C. H. Dunbar, of Brecksville, Ohio; Carlton L., of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Eliza A., the widow of Charles Reynolds, and a resident of Sturgeon Bay, Wis.; Maria L., the wife of James H. Coates, of Brecksville, Ohio; and Charles E., the subject of this biographical notice. The last-named is the youngest surviving member of the family. At the time his parents removed to Summit County, Ohio, he was about six months old, and his boyhood years were passed upon his father's farm.

September 24, 1854, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Maria Van Noate, a native of Independence, Ohio, and immediately after their marriage the young couple came to Michigan and settled in Grand Rapids, where they spent the winter of 1854-55. Removing from that city to Clinton County, Iowa, they resided there until 1858, when they returned to Michigan and located in Blendon Township, Ottawa County. For two years Mr. Storrs was engaged in the mill

and lumber business in Ottawa County, and in the spring of 1861 he purchased a one-half interest in a sawmill there.

Shortly after the opening of the Civil War, Mr. Storrs enlisted in Company B, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, and in 1862 went to the front in the capacity of Supernumerary Second Lieutenant. On the 16th of March, 1863, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant, and on the 17th of July, 1863, was commissioned Captain. He continued in that rank until he was promoted to be Major, on the 6th of February, 1865, and was serving in that position at the time of his discharge. He participated actively in many engagements, and at Newby's Cross Roads, July 24, 1863, was wounded in the left shoulder by a minie-ball. He was honorably discharged at Leavenworth, Kan., October 10, 1865, and on being mustered out of the service returned to his home in Ottawa County.

Resuming his lumber and milling business, which he had temporarily discontinued, Maj. Storrs was thus engaged until 1876, when he disposed of his interests in Ottawa County and removed to Eden Township, Mason County, this State. There for a number of years he made his home on a farm. In 1882 he came to North Muskegon in the capacity of book-keeper for the C. N. Storrs Lumber Company, a position which he filled acceptably. In 1886 he, with Frank Storrs, purchased the Peninsula Fruit Farm, the name of which they changed to Storrs' Vineyard. This fine farm is devoted to the raising of fruits, a business in which the Major is particularly well informed. Twenty acres are planted in a vineyard, while three acres are devoted to garden, the balance, twenty-seven acres, being woodland. From thirty to forty-five tons of grapes each season are raised, and the grapes, for flavor and quality, are unsurpassed, if equalled, in the State.

The Major and his wife have a family of three children: Alice J., wife of Leroy A. Franklin, of Grand Rapids; Frank, who aids in the cultivation of the fruit farm; and Maggie, the wife of Elliott D. Prescott, a resident of Ravenna, Mich. Maj. Storrs cast his first ballot in Ohio in 1854, and has been a Republican ever since the inception of that party. In 1875 he represented Blendon Township

on the Board of Supervisors of Ottawa County, and he also served as Township Clerk and Highway Commissioner while residing there. In Eden Township, Mason County, he served as Supervisor during the years 1877, '79, '80 and 1881, and was a member of the Board of School Examiners of Mason County. He served as Supervisor of the township of Laketon, Muskegon County, in 1882 and 1887, and for one year filled the position of Assessor of North Muskegon. He also served as Alderman of North Muskegon for one year. Socially, he is identified with Amos E. Steele Post No. 280, G. A. R., at North Muskegon, and has frequently served as Commander of the post. In addition to local duties he has been Inspector of the Department of Michigan, G. A. R., and is Food and Dairy Commissioner of the State.



**W**ILLIAM D. BATCHELDER, one of Muskegon County's most successful farmers, and the owner and occupant of a finely-improved farm on section 14, White River Township, is one of the heroic defenders of the Old Flag, to whose courage we owe the liberty of which our country boasts. He is the son of John D. and Bessie (Brockway) Batchelder, natives of Vermont, who came to Michigan nearly sixty years ago, and settled in Yorkville at a period so early in the history of that now thriving place, that even the most prophetic eye could scarcely have discerned its present prosperity.

Some time after settling in Yorkville, the step-mother of our subject was killed by a tornado, the mother of our subject dying when he was seven months old. His father afterward married again, and to that union four children were born. From Yorkville he went to Galesburg, where the last four children were born, and from Galesburg he moved to Nebraska, where he died in 1875. Born at Yorkville, Mich., October 22, 1839, the subject of this sketch was seven months old when he was orphaned by his mother's death. He was then

taken in a lumber wagon to Malone, N. Y., where his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, tenderly cared for him in his infancy and childhood. They reared him as their own child, and he supposed they were his parents until he was seventeen years of age, when he learned that they were uncle and aunt.

At the age of seventeen years our subject went to make his home with another uncle, A. W. Brockway, a banker of Cleveland, Ohio. Prior to leaving the Empire State he had received a good academic education, and after locating in Cleveland he was a student in the High School of that city. Later, he carried on his studies at Albion College, which his uncle, W. H. Brockway, built. At the age of almost twenty years he was chosen for the position of foreman on the Lansing & Grand Traverse Railroad, but after working in that capacity for a short time, he resigned and proceeded to Saginaw, where he worked in a mill until the commencement of the Civil War.

November 16, 1861, the name of William D. Batchelder was enrolled as a member of Company D, Twelfth Michigan Infantry, and as a private in the ranks he participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Tallahatchie, and all the engagements of Gens. Prentiss and John A. Logan's divisions, up to and including Middleburgh. After a year's active service he was appointed on detached service in the Fifth Ohio Heavy Artillery, stationed at Duvall's Bluff and Little Rock, Ark. Later, he was transferred to the Second Missouri Light Artillery, and with his regiment saw some active fighting at White River. He was especially fortunate, for he was neither wounded nor imprisoned during the entire period of his service, covering three years and three months. He was discharged January 7, 1865, at Duvall's Bluff, Ark.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the army, Mr. Batchelder returned to Michigan and sojourned for a short time in Albion. In 1865 he came to Muskegon County and purchased the farm where he has since resided. It was then wholly unimproved, and the modern conveniences now noticeable there are the work of the present owner. He has erected a substantial set of farm buildings and has placed eighty-five of the ninety acres un-

der excellent cultivation. Socially, he is identified with Ferry Post No. 3, G. A. R., and is prominent in this organization.

In 1865, Mr. Batchelder was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Walters, a native of Michigan, who formerly resided near Galesburg. After their marriage, the young couple settled on section 14, White River Township, remaining here during the winter seasons and working in Muskegon during the summers. Through economy and industry they have succeeded in gaining a place among the successful and well-to-do people of the community, and are esteemed wherever known. They are the parents of two daughters, Cora and Etta, to whom they have given good educational advantages, and who amply repay every effort made on their behalf. Mr. Batchelder appreciates the value of a good education, and while a member of the School Board has rendered effective service in the interests of the schools. In politics a Republican, he has been active in the ranks of his chosen party for a number of years. Twice he has been nominated for Supervisor, and upon one occasion lacked only one vote of being elected, while at the other election he had a minority of two. He has served as Township Treasurer and in other local offices of trust.



**I** DE DE GRAAF. The subject of this sketch, well known to a host of acquaintances in this section, is not only a baker of established reputation but an ideal farmer, for not only is every branch of his farming operations carefully looked after, but his example of industry, push and great enterprise has made a lasting impression on the industrial affairs of his section and has been emulated by many who otherwise would have, like Dickens' Wilkins Micawber "waited for something to turn up." Like the majority of people of his neighborhood, he is a native of the Netherlands, as were also his parents, John and Alice (Kofman) DeGraaf. The father was a tailor by trade and

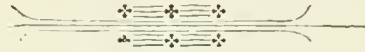
followed the same in his native country for many years. He reared the following children: Henry; Klaas, deceased; Adriaan; Alice, who died young; Ide, our subject; Alice, deceased; and Jennie. The father held membership in the Reformed Church and was a worthy and exemplary citizen.

Until eighteen years of age our subject remained under the home roof and later learned the baker's trade. He married in the Old Country Miss Gertie De Beer, a native of Holland, and the daughter of Daniel and Zwaantji (Van Derlaan) De Beer, also natives of that country. Mrs. De Graaf was a widow when our subject married her, and was the mother of one child, Christina, by the first union. By her marriage to our subject she became the mother of three children: Alice, wife of Pike Beukema; Adriaan, who married Tony Nukamp; and John, who became the husband of Mary Van Lente. In 1868, Mr. De Graaf and family took passage for America and on reaching the coast of the United States made their way to Michigan, and located in Holland, where numbers of their countrymen had located. He was entirely without means, but he found employment in a planing-mill and was engaged as engineer in the same for over six years.

After the fire in that city, Mr. De Graaf began working at his trade in his own house, baking by the kitchen stove, and continued this for six months, when he came to Zeeland. In that town he operated a bakery for some time and then bought fifteen acres where he now lives, adding to the original tract from time to time until he is now the owner of sixty acres of excellent land. He built a bakery, and although his trade was mostly confined to his own countrymen, others began to relish his fine "Holland rusks," of which he made a specialty, and he soon had his hands full. Now the business has so increased that he ships to nearly every State in the Union, and five thousand rusks are turned out every day.

After reaching this country, the following children were born to our subject and wife: Dma, wife of Rev. Thomas L. DeLange; Jennie, wife of Sake Boonstra; Daniel, deceased; and Ida. Socially, Mr. De Graaf is a member of the Reformed Church of Zeeland, and for twelve years was an Elder in the same. His son Adriaan was interested with him in

the business. He is married and the father of four children, as follows: Ide (a Dutch name for bay); Henrietta, Richard and Gertie. Adriaan possesses all the excellent business qualities of his father and is wide-awake and thorough going.



CORNELIUS BOS, who is extensively engaged in growing celery in Grand Haven, Ottawa County, claims Holland as the land of his nativity, his birth having occurred in the province of Jerome, February 3, 1841. His father, John Bos, died in Holland, and the mother, who bore the maiden name of Knelska Deint Hanns, also spent her entire life in that country.

No event of special importance occurred during the childhood and youth of our subject, which were quietly passed in his native land midst play and work. His school privileges were such as were furnished free by the Government. He remained in Holland until twenty-four years of age, when, having heard excellent reports of America and the advantages and privileges it affords, he resolved to try his fortune in the New World. Crossing the briny deep, he landed in New York City, but did not tarry long in the East, coming at once to Ottawa County, Mich., where he began working in a sawmill on the Grand River. Two years later, in 1867, he came to Grand Haven and opened a meat-market, which he carried on for twenty years. He met with success in that undertaking. It was not long before he had built up a good trade, which constantly increased until he received a most liberal patronage, and in consequence reaped a good income. At length he sold out, desiring to give his attention to other pursuits.

In 1885 Mr. Bos began raising celery, and has since continued in that industry. Having bought a tract of twenty-two acres of land, he planted thirteen acres of this with a good grade of celery. He raises the "white plume" variety, which is of a

very superior quality, and does an extensive celery business, making large shipments to Chicago by boat. He washes and markets from seven hundred to one thousand dozen stalks per day, and has a large trade in the home as well as the foreign market. He now gives his entire time and attention to this business, which is to him a profitable and paying one. He has made large investments in real estate and owns a number of residences and other town property.

On the 12th of November, 1873, Mr. Bos was united in marriage with Miss Maria Van Doorne, of Grand Haven Township, and their union has been blessed with six children, as follows: Cornelia, Maria, Jennie, Martha, Henrietta and Mortimer. The family circle yet remains unbroken and all are yet under the parental roof. The parents are members of the Christian Reformed Church. Their home is the abode of hospitality, and in the community where they live they have many friends. Mr. Bos is a Republican in politics, and was honored with an election to the office of Alderman of the Third Ward, which position he filled two years. He is a man of excellent business ability, and his success in life is due to his able management, perseverance and enterprise. His example in this direction is one well worthy of emulation.



**A**BRAM MASTENBROOK, an enterprising and lifelong general agriculturist residing upon a finely cultivated farm in Ottawa County, Mich., is a citizen of superior ability and is highly esteemed by the community among whom his days of usefulness are passed. His father, Paul Mastenbrook, was a native of the Netherlands and, reared, educated and married in his birthplace, there attained to mature age before, with his wife and children, he emigrated to America, arriving in the United States in the year 1853. He did not tarry long in the East, but journeyed to Ottawa County, Mich., making his home in Eastmanville. Born in 1798,

he was fifty-five years of age when he located in the Wolverine State, and survived his change of residence but two years, passing away in 1855. A farmer by occupation, the father was a man of earnest purpose and excellent judgment and was a Justice of the Peace in the village of Onddorp. Our subject was the fourth in a family of seven sons and daughters, who were in the order of their birth: Jaenette, deceased; Jane, deceased; John; Abraham; Clara; Cornelius; and Paul; the five last named all at the present time surviving.

Abraham Mastenbrook after arriving in America remained in New Jersey for six months and then settled in Michigan, in Ottawa County, upon a farm in Eastmanville. For about fourteen years he has been a resident of his present homestead, eight miles southeast of Grand Haven. He operates ninety acres of valuable land, which when settled upon was in its wild state, fifty acres now having yielded to high cultivation. Mr. Mastenbrook is thoroughly at home in the details of agricultural life, having spent his youth upon his father's farm. He is also an experienced horticulturist, his acres bountifully producing wheat, rye, corn, potatoes, apples, pears, plums, grapes, strawberries and raspberries. Born in the Netherlands, our subject received a good education in the schools of his native land, and when he came to this country was well fitted to successfully make his way in the world. In 1861, Abraham Mastenbrook and Miss Nellie Van der Made were united in marriage. Mrs. Mastenbrook emigrated with her parents from Europe in 1848. They first settled in Kingston, N. Y., but after living in that State three or four years removed to Michigan and located in Grand Haven.

Ten children blessed the home of our subject and his estimable wife, but six are now deceased. The four surviving are Paul; Minard; Leonard and Nettie. Three of the children are with the parents, but Minard, married to Miss Julia McCracken, is in a home of his own. A man of temperate habits, frugal and industrious, Mr. Mastenbrook has been financially prospered. Fully appreciating the advantages of a Republican government, our subject has ever been a patriotic citizen of his adopted country and is a veteran of

the late war, and under Sherman's command participated in the famous march to the sea. Mr. Mastenbrook was engaged in the battles of Atlanta, Chattanooga, Columbia, S. C., and Savannah, and took an active part in the various fights and skirmishes of the long campaign. At the close of the war returning to Ottawa County, he again resumed the peaceful avocation of a tiller of the soil. A member of the Grand Army of the Republic, our subject is fraternally associated with Champlain Post, No. 29, at Grand Rapids, and much enjoys the reunions of the order. Mr. and Mrs. Mastenbrook are both worthy members of the Congregational Church at Eastmanville and are ever ready to aid in the support of church work, also giving liberally to benevolent enterprises of their home locality. Politically a Democrat, our subject is now most acceptably discharging the duties of Highway Commissioner and, taking a deep interest in both local and national issues, is intelligently posted on all the vital questions of the day. He and his family occupy positions of useful influence and are universally esteemed.



**R**OLLIN H. PELTON. Ottawa County has no homestead more pleasantly situated than that owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch, who is one of Tallmadge Township's most enterprising farmers and fruit-growers. At the present time he cultivates about three hundred acres of land, fifty of which are planted to fruit trees, and the balance devoted to the raising of cereals. In cultivating the soil, Mr. Pelton displays the possession of excellent judgment and good business qualities, and to these characteristics is due no small measure of his success.

In referring to the parental history of our subject, we find that he is the son of Rollin and Abigail (Pelton) Pelton, natives respectively of Ver-

mont and Canada. The former was educated in the Green Mountain State, where he was for some time a student in an academy. Upon attaining maturity he migrated to Canada, and engaged in business as a lumber dealer until 1848, when he removed to the States and, locating in Michigan, settled in the vicinity of Grand Rapids. Later he removed to Ottawa County, and upon the home he there established he conducted farming operations until his demise, which occurred in 1868. He was a man of upright character, firm in his convictions and courageous in the defense of his opinions. He and his wife were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this notice is the youngest.

Born in Canada in 1844, Rollin H. Pelton was a child of four years when brought by his parents to the States, and he grew to manhood amid the scenes of Kent and Ottawa Counties, Mich., where he availed himself to the utmost of such educational advantages as the common schools afforded. As he was observant and thoughtful, he supplemented his schooling by self-culture, and in that way became the possessor of broad information upon all subjects of general interest. He was still quite young when he came to Ottawa County, and here he also prosecuted his studies in the public schools. From boyhood he has been familiar with agricultural pursuits, and upon choosing an occupation in life, selected that to which he had been reared.

Remaining an inmate of the parental home until the death of his father, our subject then assumed charge of the home farm, and has ever since conducted agricultural operations upon an extensive scale. Success has crowned his labors, and he is now recognized as one of the substantial farmers of the county. He has also met with considerable success in the raising of small fruits, for which he finds ready sale at the neighboring markets. In his political belief, he adheres with fidelity to the platform and principles of the Democratic party, of which he is one of the leaders in this section. He has held the office of Supervisor for a number of years, representing Tallmadge Township upon the Board of Ottawa County.



# INDEX.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

### A

Adams, John.....	23
Adams, John Q.....	39
Aiken, G. W.....	281
Albers, John.....	225
Alford, Charles.....	521
Alien, Alfred.....	179
Anderson, Halvor.....	524
Anderson, William.....	412
Angel, W. M.....	553
Angell, D. M.....	204
Anys, John.....	311
Arthur, Chester A.....	99
Aslakson, Hans.....	545
Atwood, H. B.....	471
Aubry, E. J.....	466
Averill, W. S.....	278

### B

Baar, Jacob.....	288
Baker, H. D.....	521
Baker, J. J.....	140
Balbirnie, James.....	266
Balkema, J. E.....	303
Barnaby, W. G.....	556
Barnard, Mrs. H. C.....	526
Bartholomew, E. E.....	471
Bassie, Anton.....	569
Batchelder, W. D.....	570
Bauknecht, Jacob.....	317
Bean, E. J., M. D.....	543
Beerman, L. O.....	171
Begeman, Gust.....	562
Behrens, Edward.....	211
Bell, D. G.....	226
Bement, H. C.....	516
Benjaminse, William.....	567
Benmink, Geerhard.....	235
Bignell, T. H.....	392
Bilz, Aloys.....	513

### C

Callif, D. E.....	456
Callan, T. B.....	266
Campbell, F. H.....	328
Campbell, John.....	305
Carpenter, Hon. William.....	193
Carr, O. B.....	367
Carr, W. T.....	261
Cavanaugh, James.....	296
Chaddock, Dr. Gilbert.....	368
Champion, D. M.....	427
Chapman, J. H.....	184
Chase, C. A.....	274
Cheesman, J. D.....	128
Chittenden, W. B.....	312
Church, H. B.....	375
Clark, C. H.....	551
Clark, F. P.....	187
Clark, J. H.....	297
Cleveland, S. Grover.....	104
Cobb, G. N.....	137
Conley, W. B.....	433
Connell, P. J.....	237

### D

Daggett, Solon.....	248
Darling, D. M.....	338
Davies, Joshua.....	153
Davis, J. T.....	351
Dayton, J. T., M. D.....	548
De Graaf, Adriaan.....	571
De Graaf, Ide.....	571
De Haas, John.....	413
De Kruif, Henry, Jr.....	416
Delaney, John.....	246
Delano, H. L.....	386
De Long, Hon. Nelson.....	141
De Roo, C. J.....	307
De Vries, B. J.....	391
De Vries, H. J.....	492
De Vries, Jerry.....	558
Dewitt, P. A.....	345
Diekema, G. J.....	336
Diekema, Wiepke.....	313
Dosker, Rev. H. E.....	494
Dove, C. J., M. D.....	530
Dow, A. L.....	397
Dowd, Patrick.....	356
Duttenhofer, E. M.....	183

### E

Cook, C. J.....	414
Cooley, H. A.....	468
Cornelus, J. M.....	499
Cosgrove, A. M.....	465
Covell, M. B.....	314
Cowles, T. P.....	155
Crocker, W. H. H.....	420
Crockett, William.....	459
Crosby, E. G.....	276
Cutler, Hon. Dwight.....	142

### F

Edward, Joseph.....	386
Emlaw, A. J.....	133
Estes, S. D.....	233
Evans, Seth.....	283
Eyke, Leonard.....	252

Fabling, Philip.....	206
Fallon, J. P.....	292
Farr, William.....	275
Fay, William.....	173
Fenner, John.....	365
Ferry, Hon. T. W.....	134
Fillmore, Millard.....	67
Fleming, R. A.....	500
Fox, F. J.....	396
Franks, I. R.....	551
Fulkerson, Burnett.....	216
Fuller, George.....	448

### G

Gamble, C. S.....	245
Garfield, James A.....	95
Gates, D. J.....	363
Gee, J. J.....	162
Gill, L. W.....	378
Gillhespy, John.....	167
Godfrey, B. B., M. D.....	400
Goodenow, Isaiah.....	196
Gordon, O. E.....	238
Gordon, O. P.....	373
Grant, Ulysses S.....	87
Gunn, C. L.....	277

### H

Hackley, Hon. C. H.....	324
Hall, Francis.....	520
Hall, John.....	348
Harrison, Benjamin.....	107

Harrison, William Henry . . . 51  
 Hayes, H. H. . . . 254  
 Hayes, Rutherford B. . . . 91  
 Hayward, Edwin . . . 335  
 Hayward, Montgomery . . . 395  
 Heyboer, Peter . . . 364  
 Heyboer, Philip . . . 364  
 Hills, C. H. . . . 255  
 Hinman, Frederick . . . 469  
 Hitchcock, G. T. . . . 145  
 Hoffman, George . . . 256  
 Holt, Hon. H. H. . . . 117  
 Hopkins, A. G., M. D. . . . 236  
 Horton, A. P. . . . 439  
 Horton, I. C. . . . 367  
 Howden, J. J. . . . 538  
 Hoyt, Hon. C. K. . . . 315  
 Hubert, Gustav . . . 164  
 Hudson, H. E. . . . 347  
 Hummer, G. P. . . . 271  
 Humphrey, E. J. . . . 261  
 Hunter, Hiram . . . 267  
 Huntley, Alfred . . . 273  
 Huntley, James . . . 450  
 Huntton, I. F. . . . 332  
 Hutchinson, James . . . 201

J

Jackson, Andrew . . . 43  
 Jackson, B. H. . . . 455  
 Jasper, Anthony . . . 376  
 Jefferson, Thomas . . . 27  
 Jekel, Henry . . . 510  
 Jenison, Luman . . . 371  
 Johnson, Andrew . . . 83  
 Johnson, J. E. . . . 217  
 Johnston, G. N. . . . 227  
 Johnston, Thomas . . . 306  
 Jones, Frank . . . 409  
 Jones, G. W. . . . 258  
 Jones, John . . . 357  
 Joy, Asa . . . 110

K

Kambout, Marmus . . . 355  
 Kanters, Rokus . . . 496  
 Kelley, M. C. . . . 212  
 Kelly, W. D. . . . 136  
 Kelly, W. D. . . . 256  
 Kemme, Claus . . . 351  
 Kenney, R. N. . . . 298  
 Koppel, Govert . . . 138  
 King, B. D., M. D. . . . 596  
 King, C. L. . . . 122  
 Kleyn, J. R. . . . 272  
 Kolb, William . . . 406  
 Kollen, Prof. G. J. . . . 166  
 Kooiman, Joost . . . 549  
 Koon, C. E., M. D. . . . 178  
 Kroners, Henry, M. D. . . . 331

Kronenmyer, Albert . . . 481  
 Krupp, W. H. . . . 564

L

Lahuis, Kasper . . . 473  
 Lanoreaux, R. G. . . . 506  
 Lange, Hermann . . . 286  
 Lange, Max . . . 506  
 Langkowel, Herman . . . 540  
 Larson, Thomas . . . 470  
 Latham, G. A. . . . 241  
 Laubaeh, John . . . 437  
 Lawton, Perley . . . 465  
 Lee, Capt. Seth . . . 257  
 Le Fevre, G. L., M. D. . . . 421  
 Leslie, Hon. C. H. . . . 429  
 Lewis, J. C. . . . 476  
 Lilhe, Benjamin . . . 544  
 Lillie, C. C. . . . 203  
 Lillie, Roswell . . . 544  
 Lillie, W. I. . . . 282  
 Lincoln, Abraham . . . 79  
 Losby, P. W. . . . 413  
 Lugers, Luke . . . 337  
 Lyman, Lucius . . . 391

M

Maedonald, R. J. . . . 510  
 Madison, James . . . 31  
 Maffett, Samuel . . . 171  
 Malcolm, James . . . 242  
 Mangold, Frank . . . 383  
 Martin, W. T. . . . 158  
 Mason, G. H. . . . 123  
 Mason, R. B. . . . 467  
 Mastenbrook, Abraham . . . 573  
 Masterson, John . . . 432  
 McBride, J. F. . . . 213  
 McComb, William . . . 147  
 McKillip, W. M. . . . 172  
 McKinstry, Hon. W. H. . . . 146  
 McLaughhn, David . . . 302  
 McMillan, George . . . 177  
 McNett, J. B., M. D. . . . 191  
 Mears, Albert . . . 194  
 Mees, Capt. William . . . 152  
 Meinhardt, J. D., M. D. . . . 346  
 Merrill, Hon. E. W. . . . 223  
 Medema, Dirk . . . 475  
 Miller, Thomas . . . 564  
 Miller, G. M. . . . 192  
 Miller, Henry . . . 202  
 Miller, J. A. . . . 489  
 Milne, David . . . 153  
 Misner, P. P. . . . 254  
 Monroe, James . . . 35  
 Moon, Hon. J. W. . . . 541  
 Moore, W. E. . . . 567  
 Moriarty, Prof. D. J. . . . 135

Morrison, W. B., M. D. . . . 372  
 Mosher, L. D. . . . 353  
 Mountford, Samuel . . . 186  
 Mueller, Rudolph . . . 501  
 Murphy, Thomas . . . 453

N

Naber, J. J. . . . 490  
 Naber, J. P. . . . 318  
 Nelson, Nels . . . 363  
 Nelson, N. P. . . . 218  
 Nienhuis, Wybe . . . 565  
 Nims, F. A. . . . 262  
 Norrington, Hon. J. W. . . . 222  
 Northouse, A. C. . . . 361  
 Nufer, W. F. . . . 522  
 Nyland, A. J. . . . 312

( )

Oakes, D. C. . . . 453  
 Oatman, Truman . . . 308  
 O'Connor, H. A. . . . 417  
 Odion, W. F. . . . 216  
 O'Hara, James . . . 537  
 Olson, O. C. . . . 554  
 Olson, Tom . . . 533  
 Outhwaite, G. F. . . . 261  
 Owen, W. W. . . . 491

P

Parish, Wells . . . 141  
 Parker, H. E. . . . 561  
 Parrish, Enos . . . 458  
 Parsons, J. H. . . . 301  
 Patterson, Adam . . . 231  
 Peck, William . . . 495  
 Pelgrim, Hubert . . . 523  
 Pelton, Ephraim . . . 224  
 Pelton, R. H. . . . 574  
 Perham, Hon. J. B. . . . 418  
 Perley, M. V. . . . 136  
 Peterson, Charles . . . 556  
 Peterson, Peter . . . 477  
 Pierce, Franklin . . . 71  
 Pillel, Lorenzo . . . 168  
 Pintler, Curtis . . . 207  
 Pitkin, C. G. . . . 403  
 Plant, H. E. . . . 535  
 Poest, B. J. . . . 398  
 Polk, James K. . . . 59  
 Porter, Hon. G. F. . . . 251  
 Potter, W. H. . . . 284  
 Proctor, C. H. . . . 127  
 Purchase, Alfred . . . 568

Q

Quick, I. J. . . . 563  
 Quinn, T. J., M. D. . . . 525

R

Reiseger, M. J. . . . 527  
 Rice, Hon. G. C. . . . 187  
 Robart, J. C. . . . 438  
 Robinson, Alfred . . . 447  
 Robinson, Charles . . . 447  
 Robinson, Moses . . . 503  
 Robinson, Robert . . . 460  
 Robson, R. G. . . . 399  
 Rooks, Gerrit . . . 509  
 Rooks, John . . . 464  
 Ross, C. F. . . . 175  
 Rote, E. G. . . . 284  
 Row, W. A. . . . 148  
 Ryerson, Martin . . . 334

S

Sack, August . . . 552  
 Sack, Frederick . . . 552  
 Sanders, Oscar . . . 512  
 Sanford, G. D. . . . 311  
 Sanford, S. R. . . . 474  
 Sauidge, Hunter . . . 131  
 Scott, Frank . . . 291  
 Sessions, C. W. . . . 510  
 Shanks, Adam . . . 424  
 Sheffield, Prof. J. H. . . . 164  
 Sherburne, O. M. . . . 385  
 Skeels, R. W. . . . 531  
 Smead, E. H. . . . 451  
 Smith, E. J. . . . 156  
 Smith, H. B. . . . 215  
 Smith, T. D., M. D. . . . 415  
 Soowdin, William . . . 358  
 Soderberg, S. A. . . . 515  
 Somerset, Thomas . . . 463  
 Sorenson, Lars . . . 374  
 Spragne, F. M. . . . 457  
 Squier, F. W. . . . 228  
 Stamp, F. P., M. D. . . . 382  
 Staples, Hon. H. E. . . . 120  
 Stearns, Ezra . . . 476  
 Stegeman, John . . . 488  
 Stein, Hubert . . . 101  
 Steketee, Bastian . . . 287  
 Stevens, S. H. . . . 317  
 Stevenson, W. H. . . . 144  
 Stickney, Leonard . . . 501  
 Stickney, W. E. . . . 125  
 Stiles, E. W. . . . 322  
 Stiles, Justus . . . 322  
 Stinson, T. C. . . . 181

Stone, Enos.....295  
 Storrs, Maj. C. E.....569  
 Streng, C. L.....446  
 Strong, J. E.....182  
 Sturgis, A. L.....454  
 Sumner, A. B.....449  
 Swenson, Swen .....559

T

Taylor, Zachary..... 63  
 Ten Have, John.....393  
 Thatcher, Edwin.....384  
 Thomas, Caesar, M. D.....292  
 Thompson, Hans.....402  
 Thompson, J. A.....344  
 Thompson, Milton.....186  
 Thurston, Benton.....516  
 Thustell, Herbert, M. D.....515  
 Tillotson, G. J.....181  
 Turner, J. W. A.....452  
 Twiss, J. R.....445  
 Tyler, E. E.....161  
 Tyler, John..... 55

U

Upton, Hon. Daniel, Sr.....143

V

Van Buren, Martin ..... 47  
 Vanden Beldt, Gerrit.....428  
 Vanden Berg, A. G.....366  
 Vanden Bosch, Anna.....550  
 Vander Bosch Marenus.....287  
 Vander Haar, Albertus.....493  
 Vander Werp, J. D.....534  
 Van Doorne, Cornelius.....298  
 Van Doorne, Martin.....463  
 Van Dyk, Otto.....123  
 Van Hees, A. G.....321  
 Van Raalte, Rev. A. C.....243  
 Vanzalingen, H. B. W.....285  
 Vaupell, John.....305  
 Veneklasen, Roelof.....381  
 Vincent, Henry.....434

Vredeveld, G.....475  
 Vyn, Derk.....333

W

Waalkes, Hon. Martin.....293  
 Wachter, Willam.....537  
 Waite, J. N.....411  
 Walker, R. G.....242  
 Walkley, W. S., M. D.....529  
 Wallis, George.....354  
 Walsh, Martin.....367  
 Warber, Frederick.....388  
 Washington, George.....19  
 Waters, D. R.....352  
 Watson, D. O.....151  
 Watson, Edward.....434  
 Watson, Col. T. S.....497  
 Watson, T. W.....404  
 Weatherwax, H. D.....253  
 Weersing, Jacob.....362  
 Weston, M. L., M. D.....511  
 Westrate, Cornelius.....323  
 Wetmore, J. D., M. D.....505  
 Wheeler, J. H.....436  
 Whipple, William, Jr.....440  
 Whitney, C. L.....532

Whitney, Luther.....126  
 Widoe, T. B.....377  
 Wilkinson, J. E.....419  
 Williams, J. H.....233  
 Williams, O. C., M. D.....502  
 Wilson, D. A.....132  
 Wilterdink, J. A.....478  
 Wintermute, P. H.....165  
 Wiselogeel, W. F.....188  
 Wolff, H. A.....268  
 Wood, W. F.....514  
 Woodard, Tracy.....539  
 Woodbury, G. B.....124  
 Woodbury, G. T.....483  
 Woodbury, Jesse.....483  
 Woodman, F. B.....528  
 Woods, Capt. H. J.....119  
 Woodward, J. B., M. D.....397  
 Worden, E. A.....133  
 Wylie, Judge E. H.....232  
 Wyman, C. E.....161

Y

Yates, O. E., M. D.....327  
 Young, William.....559

PORTRAITS.



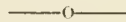
Adams, John..... 22  
 Adams, John Q..... 38  
 Anys, John.....340  
 Arthur, Chester A..... 98  
 Behrens, Edward.....210  
 Buchanan, James.....74  
 Champion, D. M.....426  
 Cleveland, S. Grover.....102  
 Davis, J. T.....350  
 De Long, Hon. Nelson.....140  
 Eckhoff, John.....220  
 Fillmore, Millard..... 66

Garfield, James A..... 91  
 Grant, U. S..... 86  
 Harrison, Benjamin.....106  
 Harrison, W. H..... 50  
 Hayes, R. B..... 90  
 Holt, Hon. H. H.....116  
 Hummer, G. P.....270  
 Jackson, Andrew..... 42  
 Jefferson, Thomas..... 26  
 Jenison, Luman.....370  
 Johnson, Andrew..... 82

Kremers, Henry, M. D.....330  
 Lincoln, Abraham..... 78  
 Lyman, Lucius.....390  
 Madison, James..... 30  
 Maffett, Samuel.....170  
 McNett, J. B., M. D.....190  
 Monroe, James..... 31  
 Outhwaite, G. F.....200  
 Patterson, Adam.....230  
 Pierce, Franklin..... 70  
 Polk, J. K..... 58  
 Porter, Hon. G. F.....250

Sanford, G. D.....310  
 Savidge, Hunter.....130  
 Scott, Frank.....290  
 Taylor, Zachary..... 62  
 Tillotson, G. J.....180  
 Tyler, John..... 54  
 Van Buren, Martin..... 46  
 Van Hees, A. G.....320  
 Veneklasen, Roelof.....380  
 Washington, George..... 15  
 Wyman, C. E.....160

VIEWS.



Aiken, G. W.....279  
 Anderson, William.....443  
 Averill, W. S.....279  
 Carr, W. T.....250

Gordon, Mrs. E. E.....239  
 Jones, Frank.....197  
 Jones, G. W.....259  
 Joy, Asa.....407

Kennedy, R. N..... 299  
 Kolb, William.....407  
 Latham, G. A.....239  
 Northouse, A. C.....359

Snowdin, William.....359  
 Twiss, John R.....143  
 Van Doorne, Cornelius.....260













FEB 16 1927

